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REDHILL PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Wednesday 1st July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you very much to all of the parents who responded to our questionnaire about your child's experiences during lockdown and since we have partially reopened to priority year groups. We had over 170 responses in total which has been hugely helpful in considering next steps for September.

I would like to take the opportunity to respond to a couple of queries included in your responses:

- Online learning supervised by a teacher would have been better by a teacher. As a school, we would have loved to have offered this facility. Unfortunately, we did not have adequate time to train staff in the use of an online platform with only two days notice of closure from the government. We also would not have been able to cater for those children still in school (key worker, vulnerable and priority year groups) and have teachers available to lead live lessons. In its place, we have provided links to websites such as Oak Academy and BBC bitesize which have offered live lessons. We have also recently subscribed to White Rose Maths to support the home learning of maths further. Another concern was that some children would not have the technology to access live lessons, and would be disadvantaged if we offered live lessons online. Our ICT technician is looking into creating our own virtual learning environment which would allow children to submit work and teachers to give feedback via this system.
- It is really important when they are essentially working on their own to get that feedback that a) their work is acknowledged and b) they are doing it correctly. We agree that this is also very important and we are looking into ways in how we can do this further. We currently offer feedback via Purple Mash and My Maths. Our phone calls home also offer an opportunity for teachers and children to discuss their work.
- The home learning packs were too lengthy and cost too much to print. Our learning packs were intended to be very thorough and therefore, they were quite lengthy! We do print these for parents upon request and leave these in the foyer for collection. However, we will look into a more eco-friendly way to send work home in the future.
- The home learning packs were too easy and they were completed in no time at all. Our learning packs offered four lessons a day for children to undertake. Alongside this, there were websites listed for children to complete activities and access further learning if required. In the first instance, teachers wanted to consolidate prior learning and reduce the stress on parents to teach children anything completely new. As

"What we instill in our children will be the foundations upon which they build their future" - A Valued Me Redhill embodies this through our core values of respect, friendship, responsibility, empathy, honesty & independence.

















- time went on and we realised that we were going to continue to be closed to many pupils, new learning needed to be introduced.
- I've heard of other schools where they are bringing in different year groups for one week each before the end of term. Is this something the school can consider? We would have loved to have welcomed all children back to the Academy before the summer holidays. Unfortunately, Public Health England have strongly advised that the staff and children should have a period of 14 days isolation before moving to another bubble of 15 children. Schools have been reminded of this advice by the local authority last week. Therefore, we are afraid that inviting children back for an extended time before the end of term is not feasible.

On our recent PD day, the staff made a start in constructing their curriculum plans for the next academic year. We are conscious that many of our children during this time, may have experienced difficulties or have missed being part of the Redhill community. Therefore, we have decided to focus evermore on our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) alongside our 'A Valued Me' core values. This will be a priority alongside bridging any gaps which children may have encountered as a result of the school partially closing in March. If you would like to further prepare your child for returning to school in September, please refer to the Supporting your Child Parent Guide which was sent home earlier in the week.

We know that this has been a particularly challenging time for parents as well the whole Redhill community. Many of you have had to juggle work alongside teaching. We would like to thank you all once again for all your support over the last few months in supporting your child's learning. You have all done a fantastic job!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cartwright Deputy Headteacher