



## Exceed Learning Partnership

Edlington Lane  
Edlington  
Doncaster  
DN12 1PL

Telephone: 01709 863273

Fax: 01709 869936

Email: [admin@hilltop.doncaster.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hilltop.doncaster.sch.uk)

Website: [www.exceedlearningpartnership.co.uk](http://www.exceedlearningpartnership.co.uk)

## *'Innovative Education – Transforming Lives'*

25<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### **Important Communication from the CEO:**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the amazing remote learning you are supporting our teachers and pupils to facilitate. We have received some very positive feedback in our academies as we try and develop our approaches further to manage this current situation as effectively as we can. All academies are collating an engagement tracker so that we can review this on a weekly basis and further support our pupils. We have also reviewed the option of live engagement and live lessons and all academies will start to implement these. These will focus on both pupil's academic learning as well as opportunities to develop social and emotional skills. We are mindful that pupils are not socialising as much during these periods, therefore we are incorporating some 'fun' events in order to support the confidence of our pupils.

### **Updates on Infection rates:**

This table reflects the data up to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021. It is broken down into areas which all our academies serve so that you are updated on the infection rates within your local area.

Academy	Community Infection Rate	Up or down from the previous week
Hill Top	187 per 100,000	Reduced by 106 per 100,000
Edlington Victoria	227.1 per 100,000	Increased by 33 per 100,000
Carr Lodge	267.5 per 100,000	Reduced by 21 per 100,000
Sandringham	357.9 per 100,000	Increased by 58 per 100,000
Sheep Dip Lane	177 per 100,000	Reduced by 70 per 100,000
Doncaster	276.7 per 100,000	Reduced by 863 from when the figure was 345.0

### **Access to the voucher system for Free Schools Meals:**

- All vouchers have been supplied to families on a weekly basis
- Each academy will be moving to the Endered system which is the Government's National Voucher Scheme.
- Please contact the academies if you have any difficulties accessing the vouchers

### **Arrangements for Pupil Remote Learning whilst at home and in the academy:**

All pupils should have access to the Seesaw App or the Tapestry app in early years.

It is really important that pupils access the remote learning if they are not attending on site in the academy. If pupils are finding this challenging, then please contact your class teacher via the app or telephone the academy and we will provide support.

During these challenging times, we appreciate the difficulties in home-schooling, particularly whilst also working. We do not wish to put parents under any undue pressure, but we do need pupils to access the learning in order to continue to retain the learning that they have already completed this year.

### **Teachers will be uploading daily lessons, videos and activities:**

- These will be manageable for pupils and parents and through the app you can contact the teachers if you have any concerns. Teachers will provide feedback on all the learning activities completed
- Individual plans will be followed for pupils on EHCP if they are not attending the provision. Teachers will contact individual families to set this up
- Communication will be updated on the academy / school website, through email, twitter and through text messaging services
- A Remote Learning and Safeguarding Policy has been devised in all our academies and this will be available for you to access shortly on the academy websites. The remote learning template is also available for you to review the expectations

### **ICT Devices:**

If parents require any remote learning devices for their child (ren), we can provide these. Our DFE devices also have access to the Wireless network. Please contact the academy and we will ensure these are distributed to you. We are also trying to provide 1 device per pupil as we recognise that it is difficult to share devices. We have applied for more devices via the DFE. If these are not allocated, then we will purchase these as a Trust for our pupils.

As I explained in my previous correspondence, it can be present many challenges for our pupils, learning remotely. We appreciate that everyone is doing their best and if you require any further support then please contact us and we will try and help.

### **Ofsted Inspections:**

Ofsted have issued new guidance on the Inspections of Schools. These will be undertaken remotely. If you have any praise or concerns about remote learning, then please raise these with the Principals / Head Teacher of the academy. After this process, you can also contact our Trust Central Team if you wish to discuss anything further.

### **Communication with Parents:**

You will no doubt have seen the media over the weekend about whether our academies will return to wider opening after the half-term. As of yet we have received no confirmation from the DFE and at this current time are unable to clarify this. It is however, very likely, from my perspective, that remote learning will continue until after the Easter Break. Once we receive notification from the DFE, we will update you and provide any further guidance.

**You can contact your academy via email if you require any further information**

Alternatively, you can contact our Trust Central Team on:

[admin@exceedlearningpartnership.com](mailto:admin@exceedlearningpartnership.com)

Or myself CEO on:

[ceo@exceedlearningpartnership.com](mailto:ceo@exceedlearningpartnership.com)

### **Lateral Flow Testing:**

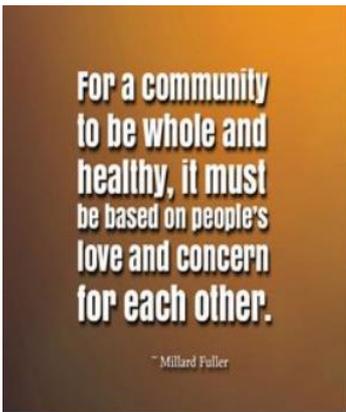
From Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January, we implemented lateral flow testing for all our employees who are working on the academy sites. Employees working on site will now undertake two tests a week. This will hopefully support the confidence and morale of our employees. All other safety and social distancing measures will remain in place within our academies. This is another protective measure to help prevent the spread of infection.

Last week, in our Trust, we had no staff members who were self-isolating due to Covid-19 symptoms. Since January, we have closed only 1 bubble in our Trust.

We will update you on any further guidance that is released by the Department for Education. At present Lateral Flow Testing is only available for secondary pupils. This may change in the coming weeks but I cannot confirm this at the present time.

Finally, we visited some of the academies last week in order to review our academy organisational plans and risk assessment. These are really strong documents and credit needs to go to the Principals/Head Teacher who have worked so hard on ensuring that these are of the highest quality and we are providing the highest standards of safety. For myself and our new Chief Operating Officer, Andy Hibbitt, it was wonderful to see the pupils on site enjoying their learning and the remote education taking place. I want to express a huge thank you to all our staff, who have again worked so hard to implement this new Government guidance at such short notice.

**As always I would like to include a little quote to finish my letter. We have been overwhelmed with the support we have received from our communities.**



**Stay Safe and Take Care!**

**Yours sincerely,**

*B.A. Nixon*

**Mrs B.A Nixon  
CEO**

