

# Lochardil Primary School

Lochardil Road, Inverness, IV2 4LB

Tel. 01463 230250

Email : [lochardil.primary@highland.gov.uk](mailto:lochardil.primary@highland.gov.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs Audrey Kellacher

[www.lochardilprimary.org.uk](http://www.lochardilprimary.org.uk)

emergency closure 0800 564 2272 school's pin number 04 2500



Date: 20.03.2020

## UNCRC Article 29



Dear Parent/Carers

With the announcement of school closures from today, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, our commitment at Lochardil Primary School continues to be the education and safeguarding of all our pupils, and to sustain strong links with our learners, parents/ carers, and local community during this time.

We have worked to establish a system which will support continuity of education, and in line with Highland Council provision to support this.

We have-

- **Issued Home Learning Packs** consisting of a **jotter** (as a way of recording work completed. Please note that these should not be returned to school due to health and safety however work can be photographed or scanned and uploaded to the Google Classroom for sharing if they choose.); **Class Learning Overview for Term 4** including the key focus for learning and teaching for next term and suggested websites to support. This will help you develop your child's learning with a focus if/when you choose to use some of the creative and supportive resources that have been made available to support education at home during this time e.g. from social media sharing platforms; a Curriculum for Excellence level **Home Learning Grid** developed for different stages including Early Level (ELC-P1), First Level (P2-4) and Second Level (P5-7). These Home Learning Plans provide information of various activities which can also be undertaken on a flexible basis and to support parents/ carers with ideas for how to support the learning; **Family Learning 'How to Help Guides'** for Literacy, Numeracy & Play (for Early level).
- **Google Classrooms** set up for each class from ELC – P7 to enable pupils to continue their learning daily and to provide an alternative communication link during closure.
- Provided details of **how to access Google Classrooms** from home and an online support will be posted on the Blog to help.
- Staff (Class Teachers & PSAs) logged in to their **Google classroom at 10am** each morning next week, after our **staff meeting at 9am**, to be available for children to engage and respond to any queries for the tasks ahead. Work will be provided for that day which pupils can complete at a time appropriate for them.
- **Work agreed for next week daily** will include a Literacy, Numeracy and Other (teacher choice of curricular area) task, plus we will have a Health & Wellbeing task shared by our P.E. teacher for all classes. There will also be an *Explore* task shared that we would urge you all to get involved with!
- **Registers** will be taken and recorded to ensure our children are still accessing their education. Please register by 12 noon daily (we appreciate it will not be routine as normal at home and circumstances may affect daily patterns. With this in mind we have created this register timeframe). This is subject to change in line with Highland council guidance so please look for updates on your Google Classroom or School Blog. Please email our clerical staff [Lochardil.Primary@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Lochardil.Primary@highland.gov.uk) if your child is unable to

participate in the learning e.g. if unwell and cannot virtually attend. Staff will stay in contact as per usual procedures.

- Teachers/ EYPs and Head Teacher will be available through their **individual school email addresses** provided to each class should you require any support.
- **How to instructions** on how to access the Google Classroom/ Google Hangout as a child/parent is available online.
- **Highland Digital Schools Hub** - a new site created to support the use of G-Suite: <http://highland.gov.uk/digitalschoolshub/> This website includes digital skills information and digital skills learning for parents, schools and pupils.

During the school closure our staff will continue to plan for your child's learning as well as continuing to work on their own Career Long Professional Learning to sustain GTCs standards. We will develop our digital classrooms as time progresses and continue to add to the content and adapt the teaching and learning according to the class needs. This will include access to other areas of the curriculum, and may include recordings, guest speakers, input from partners, short film clips of modelling a strategy or skill, resource or activity, links to other useful web-based resources or ideas and other interactive opportunities as the class develops and progresses.

Google Classrooms will be used by class teachers during this closure to share work and messages rather than the Blog. This allows us as a school to use the Blog & Twitter to communicate important messages.

We await further information from Highland Council regarding approaches to support vulnerable children and those who have parents/ carers employed as key workers.

We recognise and value the important role of parent/carers as partners in their child's learning and appreciate your support. Please feel supported by our efforts, and also empowered to use your own initiatives and ideas to support our core focus for learning for your child next term. Do what you feel is appropriate for your own situation, and with the time you have available. There is no pressure, simply support, for us to continue to work together to allow our children to be the best they can be, even in the most challenging of times. **Remember - "You are not expected to be a teacher or to recreate the school day. But we want you to feel supported to help your child."** John Swinney DFM 19.03.2020

You are all in our thoughts and our hearts go out to everyone affected. We strongly encourage you to adhere to the NHS guidance and advice on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and do everything you can to take the measures needed to keep both you, your family, and our community, both local and global, safe and well. Love is at the heart of our core school values and we want you to know we feel this is so important at this time.

To all our children,

This will be one school year none of us will ever forget! Remember to keep a diary, we are part of history! Record all your thoughts and experiences, and *"Promise me you'll always remember you're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."* Winnie the Pooh.

Thank you everyone for your continued support for our Lochardil family, keep in touch.



Mrs A Kellacher  
Head Teacher