



Leading Learning Trust



Portway Primary School,
Stratford Road, London, E13 0JW
T 020 8472 7142

www.portway.leadinglearningtrust.org

Dear Families,

It certainly seems much longer than a week and a half since the arrangements for the temporary closure of schools were instigated. Although there remains so much uncertainty, that moral imperative we share about providing support for the most vulnerable and for key workers, drives us to do our best, whatever the circumstances.

I am pleased with the feedback from families of how well our community has adapted during this unprecedented time. Together, we will fight this!

School Closure Update:

The school continues to be closed for most pupils. There is daily guidance from the government about the measures being taken to combat coronavirus and we thought it would be helpful to answer some of the questions you may have:

- **Will all schools and colleges have to remain open in some form?**

Portway is being asked to remain open for children of key workers and vulnerable children (see below) where we can. This will apply until further notice. This includes being open during the Easter holidays. Please note the school will be closed on Good Friday (10th April 2020) and Easter Monday (13th April 2020).

- **Vulnerable children**

The government's definition of vulnerable young people includes children who have a social worker, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care plans (EHCPs). In Newham this also includes young people who receive high-needs funding. We have been working to identify the children who need support at this time and have contacted families to talk this through.

- **Children of key (critical) workers**

The government published a list of those deemed key (critical) workers. The government's guidance states: 'Many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.' Where this is not possible, however, schools will be open to those children. Portway has contacted those families to discuss arrangements. For key workers whose circumstances change and they require provision, they should contact the school directly.

- **Children not in either of the above groups**



If your child is not within one of the two categories above, Portway will not be able to accept your children as they are compelled to follow government guidance in this matter. We understand the frustration this may cause you, but we would ask that you respect that schools are required to do this as part of the national effort to stop the spread of coronavirus.

The link below that is located on the local offer contains Newham Covid-19 service updates for families. This page will be continuously updated with new information as the weeks progress.

<https://families.newham.gov.uk/kb5/newham/directory/advice.page?localofferchannel=2&id=Rp1I24W8t6k>

Home Learning:

I am astounded by the resilience of our pupils (and families!) during this time! Over 67% of our pupils are completing their learning online! Thank you to families for supporting our children with their learning!

If you need any technical support, please email our dedicated support team on: support@leadinglearningtrust.org

If you do not have access to a device to complete the online learning. Please contact the school office and we will make arrangements for this learning to be sent through the post.

Easter Learning

There are many additional resources which are being made available to children who will be staying at home. I have attached the suggested Easter Provision timetable and resources to support during the Easter holidays. The daily online learning will resume from Monday 20th April 2020.

The Eco-Schools Green Flag Award

It is a privilege to share some fantastic news with you all. Our wonderful school has been awarded The Eco-Schools Green Flag, which is an internationally recognised award for excellence in environmental action and learning. The Eco warriors (and Jalina Belle) have worked tirelessly on the programme to enable Portway to analyse our operations and become more sustainable. A key element is the involvement of pupils in the whole process, including monitoring, action planning and decision making, leading to ownership of the programmes and an increase in their sense of responsibility to the environment and the local area. Well done to everyone involved!



Annual Reports

I am pleased to say you should all have received an electronic copy of your child's annual reports, which were due to go out before the school closure. We are committed to working in partnership with families and hope that the information we provide in this report supports our aim to ensure all pupils receive the support they need to reach their full potential at Portway Primary School.

Please complete the Parentmail form to indicate that you have received and read your child's report. This is a further opportunity to provide feedback directly to your child's teacher.

Finally, look at for our fortnightly 'Safe and Sound' newsletter coming soon- this will include a range of advice around safeguarding, online safety and health updates in relation to the coronavirus.

Have a great weekend!

Yours Sincerely,

Scott Chudley

Head Teacher