



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you all for your kind messages of support. They are very much appreciated.

We currently have approximately 100 children in school each day. The guidance for critical and vulnerable child provision states that parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can. This is to reduce the amount of social contact within the community as much as possible. If you are currently accessing provision, and you can make alternative arrangements, I would ask that you do so, especially as we are now seeing cases within our school community.

LATERAL FLOW TESTING

We will be starting lateral flow testing of staff from next week. Staff will be tested on Mondays and Thursdays. The guidance states that tests should be carried out in the morning before school. If a member of staff tests positive then we would need to close that bubble and this would be at relatively short notice.

READ GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Between January and July 2021, we are really excited to announce that Foxmoor will be taking part in 'READ Gloucestershire'. All participating schools will be reading for fun - united in a shared purpose to help their school, to help children in hospital, and to help themselves. This project is part of the 'Read for Good' campaign whose mission is to improve the outcomes for all children in the UK. This in turn improves their emotional well-being, social mobility and their attainment by encouraging and enabling children to develop a love of reading. Read for Good's vision is for all children in the UK to be given the opportunity, space and motivation to read. Mrs Marchant will provide further details about the project, live author events and when we are going to 'Drop Everything and Read' in the next few weeks.

RISK ASSESSMENT

We have updated our risk assessment in line with guidance issued to schools at the beginning of January. This can be found on the school website. If any parent has any concerns or questions regarding the current procedures then please contact me via the admin@ email address or by ringing 01453 757251.

LOCKDOWN LIBRARY SERVICES

There are several options available if you are keen to keep your children (or even yourselves) reading over the next few weeks. At school, we would like to offer a request service so that the children can choose a book from our school stock to enjoy while they are at home. Just browse Foxmoor's Reading Cloud catalogue and let Mrs Gittings know what you have chosen. Please note that Mrs Gittings works Tuesday to Friday.

If you wish to take up this offer please:

1. Browse the catalogue at www.readingcloud.net and make your choice
Use your child's library PIN number for both the 'User Name' and 'Password' and enter 'Foxmoor Primary School' in the school box when logging on. Please contact Mrs Gittings at library@foxmoor.gloucs.sch.uk if you are unsure of your child's PIN number.
2. Contact Mrs Gittings with details of your chosen book

(Please make sure you include your child's name, the chosen book title and author's name. Please also indicate whether an alternative would be acceptable just in case your chosen book is already on loan to someone else).

3. Collect the book from the school foyer when you have been informed, via email, that it is ready for collection.

Gloucestershire Libraries are also offering some great services during lockdown including a Mini Reading Challenge for children and a choice of request services for everyone to use. Just visit <https://gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/request-services/> to use either the 'we select, you collect' option or the 'search and reserve' option. Mrs Gittings recommends the 'we select, you collect' option particularly as this can deliver some interesting choices that you may not have considered before.

FREE DIGITAL ACCESS TO BOOKS AT HOME

Oak National Academy have joined with the National Literacy Trust to provide free online ebooks. Please read the article below for details. I will write to you with further information as soon as I receive it.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-55692137>

REMOTE LEARNING

Following the release of the latest guidance from the Department for Education, the staff and I met remotely to discuss how to implement the changes but also to discuss suggestions that parents have made.

The guidance states that remote education should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school. The amount of remote education provided should be, as a minimum:

- Key stage 1: 3 hours a day on average across the cohort, with less for younger children
- Key stage 2: 4 hours a day

Teachers will be amending their plans from next week to reflect these changes. They may also, in some weeks, be asking children to submit specific pieces of work. This is to enable them to make assessments and provide specific feedback.

There is an expectation that all children engage with remote learning and schools have a duty to contact parents if there appears to be a lack of engagement. The guidance is clear that the expectation is that all children complete all work that is set. However, as a school, we are aware that not all families have the same circumstances at home during lockdown. We know that many of you will be working from home or still having to attend your place of work. Some families may not have access to multiple devices or the time to support all their children at home. We know that younger children will require more supervision and help than older ones. If you are having problems keeping up with the amount of remote learning then please contact your child's class teacher.

Please do not pressure yourself or your children and certainly do not feel guilty if you do not get through all the work on some days. Please remember that you are doing a fantastic job in difficult circumstances.

If any parents require an English or maths book for their child/children to work in then please let your class teacher know and they will arrange for you to collect them from school.

The school will continue to work within the current guidance and will adapt our provision if further guidance is released. If you have any questions regarding our remote learning offer in general, can you please direct these to me via the admin@ email address. I am also happy to speak to parents directly. I can be contacted on 01453 757251.

WARM CLOTHES IN SCHOOL

As part of the government guidelines, we have to keep windows and some external doors open to aid ventilation. As the weather becomes colder, it is important that all children have warm clothing in school. If you would like to send your child in with extra layers then please do so. This could include a fleece or gilet.

CORONAVIRUS REPORTING

Details of the three main coronavirus symptoms and what to do if your child or a family member has symptoms or tests positive is set out in the section below. **Under no circumstances are parents to send children into school knowing that their child has been in contact with a suspected or confirmed case.** This is so we can keep all of our school community safe.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

It is vital that we all work together to minimise the risk of any coronavirus outbreak. The government have issued clear guidance on what to do if anyone within your household has any of the three main coronavirus symptoms. The three main symptoms are fever, a continuous dry cough or loss of sense of smell or taste. Please see the table below for what to do if any member of your household shows any of these symptoms.

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
My child has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate Get a test Inform school immediately about the test result 	The test comes back negative
My child tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for at least 10 days Inform school immediately about the test result 	They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the virus has gone
Somebody in my house has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate Household member to get a test Inform school immediately about the test result 	The household member test is negative.
Somebody in my household tested positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for 10 days 	The child has completed 10 days of self-isolation
NHS test and trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Contact school daily Self-isolate for 10 days 	The child has completed 10 days of self-isolation

<p>We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine period is required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Contact school daily • Self-isolate for 10 days 	<p>The quarantine period of 10 days has been completed</p>
<p>We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Contact school to discuss distance learning • Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>Medical professional informs you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>

Richard Bridgewater
Headteacher

INFORMATION

School and Governor Contact:

01453 757251

Facebook @foxmoorprimaryschool

Family Lives Helpline:

0808 800 2222

www.familylives.org

Early Help Partnership Families First Plus Stroud:

01452 328130

www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

School Nurse Contact:

0300 421 8959

Early Years and Childcare:

0800 542 02 02

Gloucestershire County Council:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Friends of Foxmoor (FOF)

Facebook @friendsoffoxmoorschool

Contact: Natalie Hombrado via the school office

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find below a list of current visits planned and some important dates. I hope you find it useful. Further dates will be added in subsequent newsletters.

Spring 2021	Term 3
4 th January	First day of Term 3
12 th February	Last day of Term 3
Spring 2021	Term 4
22 nd February	First day of Term 4
1 st April	Last day of Term 4
Summer 2021	Term 5
19 th April	First day of Term 5
3 rd May	May Day Bank Holiday
27 th May	Last day of Term 5 for children
28 th May	Inset Day
Summer 2021	Term 6
7 th June	First day of Term 6
20 th July	Last day of Term 6 for children
21 st July	Inset Day