



Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School
Newsletter 10

Monday 18th January 2021

Wood Road
 Chaddesden
 Derby
 DE21 4LY
 662239

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that you are safe and well during these challenging times.

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to all the parents and carers for who made such lovely comments about our school on the 'Bluebell Dairy Farm' Facebook page for the 'nominate a school that deserves a treat' weekly competition. Your kind words made us feel appreciated and proud to be part of such a great school community. We are so lucky to have so many thoughtful, caring, and jolly lovely families at our school! To be named as the winner was fantastic news at the end of an extremely challenging week. Thank you, thank you, thank you. After an eventful weekend in the Diffin house, my husband collected the prize last Monday while I considered how I could share the prize with our wonderful team. No sooner was the prize in our house, my youngest daughter Tabitha took it upon herself to set up a celebratory ice-cream testing station! I have, however, been in touch with Bluebells and I have arranged a treat for our team this week. The ice-cream was absolutely delicious, and I can thoroughly recommend it with both home-made Eton Mess and home-made apple crumble! My oldest daughter Blossom is a delightful dessert chef!

Today's newsletter contains detailed information about the availability of school places and our Remote Education offer. Please take time to read our developments and get in touch if you have any questions.

Whether your child is attending school or staying safely at home, please let us know if your child is required to isolate due to close contact with a person who has tested positive for Coronavirus or if the household are awaiting a test result. We also need to know if your child develops Coronavirus symptoms and accesses a test. We are required to report this information to the Department for Education daily. Please keep us informed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Take care of yourselves and stay safe. We are missing you all.

[Stay Home](#)

[Protect the NHS](#)

[Save Lives](#)

Kind regards,

Mrs C Diffin

Headteacher

Our Vision

We want our children to achieve our **STAR Expectations** and succeed in life within an ever-changing world.

We want our children to be ready for the next stage of their education personally and academically.

When our children move on from us, we want them to be:

C	Curious, Determined, Brave and Flexible Learners
C	Confident Communicators, Readers, Writers and Mathematicians
I	Independent and Able to Make Safe, Healthy and Happy Choices
S	Sociable, Respectful, Resilient, Kind and Ambitious



Children accessing learning at school

Demand for Critical Worker places is now over 10 times higher than it was during the first national lockdown. We have reached our capacity at over 40% of our children attending school.

During National Lockdown, you must not leave your home except where necessary.

Parent and carers should only go to work where they cannot work from home. All employers should be facilitating home-working where possible.

Parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.

How 'Critical' is your work to the Coronavirus pandemic or the EU transition response? Do you really need a school place?

If you are a Critical Worker and you are working from home, please move towards keeping your children at home. This is safer for your family and for our school community. This will help our school to be able to help more of our vulnerable children.

If not all the adults in your household are Critical Workers, do you really need a school place?

If you are in a support bubble or a childcare bubble, do you really need a school place?

If you are a part-time Critical Worker, you can only bring your children to school when you are at work.

We would love to support all our working parents, but it is simply not safe at this time. We are relying on your integrity. Please do all that you can to keep our school and staff safe.

We know that not all our Critical Worker parents and carers have requested school places. Thank you.

The majority of our most vulnerable children are attending school with safe support packages. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer school places to any of our other vulnerable children until the overall number of children in school reduces or it becomes safer to do so. To have all our vulnerable children in school would mean that we would need all our staff in school due to the level of need that we have in school. This is just not possible as we are continuing to face staffing shortages due to Coronavirus and we must also dedicate quality time to our remote education offer and support. We will continue to provide high-quality support for all children who are safely staying at home and we will tailor support to the needs of families.

The Government have recognised that younger children are not able to maintain social distancing and for this reason we must keep group sizes small. We are continuing to assess risks in partnership with our Health and Safety Professional Advisors and Derby City Council.

Nursery Provision

We are doing our best to offer on site provision for Nursery children where this is requested by parents and carers. This is because the government have said that Nurseries should remain open where possible. For our school, this is a complex task due the number of children who attend our Nursery and number of children with additional needs who require specialist intervention by trained and familiar staff.

Mrs Howett's Nursery daily home learning plan is excellent, and we are grateful to the Nursery parents and carers who have chosen to home-school their children until transmission rates are lower and it feels safer to return to a busy environment.

We will endeavour to continue to support our most vulnerable Nursery children and the children of Critical Workers for as long as possible. Additional Nursery places will be subject to staff availability and our whole school Risk Assessment.

Children who are well and attend school:

- Need to bring a fruit snack for midmorning.
- Need to bring a packed lunch.
- Need to wear extra layers to keep warm in our well-ventilated classrooms.

If your child is not well, please do not bring them to school.



Children accessing learning at home

Children who are at home are expected to be given opportunities to progress with their education. Please work with us to keep your child learning.

Every day, your child is sent a fantastic **home learning plan** with lessons and activities to complete during the day. These daily plans are sent to parents and carers in a link using our 'Teachers 2 Parents' text messaging service and they can be found on our school website www.cavclosei.derby.sch.uk in our **Home Learning** tab: **Year Group – Home Learning Pages**. We are really proud of how our home learning plans have evolved over time. Our plans are a continuation of our well-established school curriculum and they embody our school vision and values. They will provide your child with continuity and opportunities for consolidation and progression of knowledge and skills. If you need any help with using the plans, please email your child's class teacher. The children in school will be following the same plans as the children at home.

We are asking that you regularly **share your children's work and achievements with us by email**. Your child's class teacher will provide your child with feedback and encouragement to keep learning.

On Friday, you received a text message with a link to a survey regarding access to **digital devices** and **internet connectivity** in your home. We will use this information to support families where we can. The government have a scheme where schools can apply for laptops/tablets for children where there is a need, however, this is only for children who are in Year 3 or above. The Department for Education have confirmed that we cannot access this scheme at this time. We are currently exploring other options. Most of the digital devices that we have in school are being used in classrooms or by staff who are working remotely. As a result of a previous survey, Mrs Manners secured mobile data SIM cards for about 20 families. Mrs Leadbeater secured 2 tablets for 2 very worthy children last week.

If your child would benefit from **paper copies** of any resources, please email your child's class teacher. We will do all that we can to enable your child to access the great learning that is on offer.

We have analysed responses from previous surveys, and we understand that some families find **workbooks** and worksheets helpful. This is why we gifted all children a workbook in their Christmas learning bag. Our teachers have selected the next workbook that we will be providing to families.

Our school promise is to find time to enjoy reading every day. Please support your child's reading by enjoying books together every day. Accessing **Collins Big Cat eBooks** will enable your child to continue progressing through our reading scheme. On the home learning plan is a **daily Word Wise lesson**. This lesson will help to build on your child's blending skills and word recognition skills so that they can read independently. All our children made incredible progress with their reading last term. Please keep the momentum going. We value reading so much in school and this is why we gifted every child a special storybook in their Christmas learning bag. Find time to enjoy stories every day.

Have a look on our school website in the **Home Learning** tab: **Storytime** tab. There is a video of Mrs Unwin-Rose reading 'Penguins can't fly' for the Year 1 children and Mrs Merriman reading 'A first book of Nature' for the Year 2 children. On the Nursery home learning plan, there is a link to Mrs Brown reading 'The Foggy Foggy Forest' and on the Reception home learning plan, there is a link to Mrs Bee reading 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. I'm sure that your children will enjoy seeing our staff reading the stories that are linked to this week's learning.

Class bubble teams (teachers and Teaching Assistants) will make **regular safe and well phone calls** to their classes. We are expected to monitor engagement with home learning, and we are committed to providing support and encouragement to children and their parents and carers. Phone calls will either be from the school number or from a withheld number. Staff can speak to your child on loudspeaker if you confirm that you are present. If you miss a call, please email your child's class teacher to rearrange a call at a convenient time. Keep in touch with us – We are here to help. We want to hear about what your child is enjoying and what they are finding challenging.

On our school website, you will find all the **fabulous posters and resources** that we developed during the last partial school closure to support children's learning and well-being. We will be refreshing these and sharing them during the coming weeks.

We appreciate that home schooling is easier for some parents and carers than it is for others. Some parents and carers are working from home and doing their best. Some parents and carers have several children in the home, younger and older, and they are also doing their best. We are grateful that you are keeping your children safe at home. This is helping to keep numbers down in school and to keep our staff safe – Thank you. By now, you will have **established a home-schooling routine** and you will have **created a workspace for your child**. This will show your child that you value learning and education.

Education City – www.educationcity.com Your child's Education City account is updated regularly by your child's class teacher. There are many great online learning activities so please do find time every week to have a look with your child. Many children love Education City and use it well to support their learning. The teachers can monitor how often this resource is used by the children in their class.

We are asking all parents and carers to do their best to support our remote education offer.

If you have any concerns about the amount or quality of the remote education your child is receiving, you must contact your child's class teacher or the leadership team. We are continuing to build on our existing remote education offer by listening to our parents and carers.

Thank you for your incredible support and positive feedback – It is muchly appreciated.



Keeping children Safe

The best interests of children continue to come first for the Safeguarding Team. We will do all that we can to support our children and their families during these challenging times. Our wellbeing phone calls enable us to listen and respond but please do reach out to us if you would like some support.

If anyone has a safeguarding concern about a child, they should act on it immediately.

- Parents/Carers can email the school's Safeguarding team to make an enquiry, to ask for help or to report a concern: safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

The Safeguarding Team will always respond to you. I (Mrs Diffin) am our Designated Safeguarding Lead. I oversee all communication with parents and provide advice and support to the Safeguarding Team as appropriate. Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Leadbeater and Mrs Dearie are our highly skilled and experienced Safeguarding Champions.

- Parents/Carers can ring **Derby Children's Social Care** directly 01332 641172 (Out of hours Careline 01332 956606).
- Parents/Carers can ring the **NSPCC Helpline** 0800 800 5000.



Parents and Carers with Children who are eligible for Benefits Related Free School Meals

The Government are relaunching their 'Edenred' supermarket voucher scheme this week. We have almost 80 children who are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals and they will benefit from the Government's national voucher scheme. Supermarket vouchers are emailed directly from '**Edenred**' (the Government's chosen voucher supplier) to families. Parents/carers should check their junk mail as the email could be sent there. The Government are funding £15 a week for each eligible child. As a school, we have chosen to extend this offer to our eligible Nursery children (£15 for 30-hour children and £10 for 15-hour children). All e-Codes have an activation date and cannot be used until that date. All e-Codes are 16 digits long. If you experience an error redeeming your voucher, delete the browsing history on your device and try again. A user guide is available here:

<https://www.cavclosei.derby.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ParentUserguide.pdf> If you continue to encounter difficulties, you can email 'Edenred' directly: freeschoolmealsparents@edenred.com Mrs Manners can be contacted about your eligibility and our voucher offer by email:

admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk Mrs Manners works tirelessly to ensure that vouchers are ordered at the first possible opportunity. She tracks orders and does all that she can to get vouchers sent to parents and carers as soon as possible.

Our school kitchen is currently closed again due to COVID related staffing shortages. All eligible children will receive food vouchers until further notice.

The Government have announced that eligible families will not receive vouchers for the February half term holiday.



Contacting School

Email contact is preferable as members of the administration team are working from home. Please email the most appropriate team and we will aim to reply within a reasonable amount of time.

Senior Leadership Team

leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin (Headteacher), Mrs Howett (Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Foundation Stage Leader), Mrs Asghar (Assistant Headteachers and Key Stage 1 Leader))

School Office Team

admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Tusa, Mrs Kelly, Mrs Manners)

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin, Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Leadbeater, Mrs Dearie)

Inclusion Leader

senco@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Vincett)

Year Group Class Teachers

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk (Mrs Howett)

reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk (Mrs Smith, Miss Brown, Mrs Orme)

year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk (Miss Doxey, Mrs Unwin-Rose, Miss Luke)

year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk (Mrs Merriman, Mrs Asghar, Miss Harker)

Spring Term 1 2021 – Monday 4.1 to Friday 12.2

Friday 5 th February	Maths day. Children can enjoy Marvellous Maths all day.
Tuesday 9 th February	E Safety day – Children will learn about how to stay safe online.
Friday 12 th February	School breaks up for a half term holiday.

Spring Term 2 2021 – Monday 22.2 to Thursday 1.4

Thursday 4 th March	World Book day. More information to follow.
Friday 19 th March	Comic Relief day. More information to follow.
Thursday 1 st April	School breaks up for the Easter holiday.

Summer Term 1 2021 – Monday 19.4 to Friday 28.5

Monday 3 rd May	Bank holiday.
Friday 21 st May	INSET day 4 – Staff training.
Friday 28 th May	School breaks up for a half-term holiday.

Spring Term 2 2021 – Monday 7.6 to Thursday 22.7

Friday 2 nd July	INSET day 5 – Staff training.
Thursday 22 nd July	School breaks up for the summer holiday.