March 27th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are staying well and thank you to all of you who are working in essential roles to keep the country safe, cared for, fed and provided for in these difficult times.

Thank you also for keeping your sons and daughters at home. I am sure that, like their staff, they are missing the normal routines of school but I hope they are continuing to learn and engage with the work set by staff. We all have a responsibility in educating them of the importance of staying indoors and socially distancing themselves from their friends and wider family - a challenge for all of us. Maybe this is a time many of us will discover new interests or hobbies while we have to remain at home.

Thank you also to the staff for continuing to set work each day so that learning can carry on, even if it looks so different from normal.

School Opening

The school has been open each day this week with a small group of teaching and support staff taking responsibility on a rota basis. We have had between 4 and 15 students each day who are the children of key workers or who are children with a social worker or an EHCP. Students in school have followed the same timetable as they would have done in school but we have had additional PE/exercise every day. It is currently the intention that the school will remain open over what would have been the Easter break for children of key workers. **If you are a key worker who has no other child care arrangements and need a place in school over the 2 weeks of Easter could you please let us know through emailing contact@carrhill.lancs.sch.uk_**stating which days.

Students coming into school do need to bring a packed lunch as there is no longer a catering service in school and those on free school meals will have received the food parcels.

Free School Meals

As happened this week, food parcels will be delivered to school on Monday 30th March for those children in receipt of free school meals. Once these have been delivered by the Local Authority we will contact the families concerned with details of when the parcels can be collected.

Qualifications 2020

Ofqual announced yesterday that they are aiming to publish the process and timelines for the awarding of qualifications this summer by the end of next week. This will hopefully give teaching staff and students some clarity.

Iceland 2020

We have a trip to Iceland currently scheduled for May 2020 and this will clearly not go ahead as planned. Obviously it is difficult to know how the national situation will develop over the coming weeks and months but the travel company are currently offering us an alternative date of November 4-7th which I am happy to agree to provisionally. If your son/daughter is on the list for the Iceland trip could you please contact Miss Kealey and let her know whether you are happy to accept a place for the new dates. <u>rkealey@carrhill.lancs.sch.uk</u>

I will aim to write a weekly update to keep you informed but should there be any changes announced by the Department for Education or the Local Authority I will let you know as soon as possible.

With best wishes Andrew Waller Headteacher

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