



The Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale Federation

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a fantastic week and the children continue to settle and develop their stamina for learning again; it is not easy to get the mind working again after such a long break from school. We continue to encourage and support our children. Thank you to all the parents who continue to ensure that the children are in school every day.

I am very pleased to inform you that we have had no confirmed case of Covid-19 in our school and really pleased that we are able to stay open because we really need our children in school. This because we are all working together to ensure the safety of our children. Thank you all for

- continuing to ensure you keep your distance from other parents at the gate during drop off and pick up
- for the regular temperature checks you do on your children,
- for providing hand sanitisers for your children
- coming to the school premises only when it is necessary
- encouraging your children to wash their hands regularly and maintain social distancing
- keeping us informed about your child's situation when he/she is not in school

## Reception

From Monday, the reception gate will be open from 8:45am to allow for a soft so please drop your child off any time from **8:45am**.

## School dinners/Packed lunch

We are having issues with children changing their choice of lunch every day or every week, this is not helpful and causes a lot of confusion even for the children. For this reason, we would like you to decide, for each term, the type of lunch that you want your child to have and they will have that lunch for the term. You can change it after that if you wish. Your child should either have packed lunch or school dinner for the term and you may change this after half term. We have 6 terms in a year- Autumn term 1, Autumn term 2, Spring term 1, Spring term 2, Summer term 1 and Summer term 2.

## Cashless school

I would like to remind all parents that we are now a cashless school and therefore all payments must be made online. Please come to the office to have an account set up for you if you do not have one already.

## Year 6



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Prep sessions have already started for our Year 6 pupils and we are grateful to our parents for allowing the children to attend. If you have not completed a permission slip yet, please speak to the class teacher because it is important for your child to attend these sessions. We do this to help our children catch up on the learning; we do not want any of our children falling behind.

### **Attendance and Punctuality- Every Day Counts!**

It is important that all children come to school every day and on time. As a school, we take attendance very seriously, and regularly monitor this. If your child's attendance drops below 90%, your child will be a persistent absentee. You will then be referred to the Local Authority Attendance and Welfare Officer, who will contact you directly.

**The Education Act 1996 states that it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure that their child attends the school at which they are on roll. A failure to do this, could result in legal action being taken by the Local Authority, and a penalty being issued**

**Please ensure that absences due to illness are supported by medical evidence, as it is a parental responsibility to ensure regular attendance.**

The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression.

<p><b>Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year</b></p>
<p>Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.</p>
<p><b>95%: 10 days absence a year</b></p>
<p>These pupils are likely to achieve good grades and form a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2-week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.</p>
<p><b>90%: 19 <u>sessions</u> of absence a year</b></p>
<p>The Government classifies Young People in this group as "<b><u>Persistent Absentees</u></b>", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by the Local Authority.</p>
<p>Young people in this group are missing a month of school per year; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.</p>

It is an uncertain time for all of us and we are dealing with issues that we have never dealt with before so not everything will be perfect, but we continue to learn and improve as a school.

Thank you for all the support and encouraging words, they make a huge difference to us. Stay safe!

Mrs. Cobblah  
Head of School



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Year 6 science and PE lessons



Our nursery children have settled in very well, we are so proud of them