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27 March 2020

Dear parents and carers

RE: childcare hubs, online learning, free school meals and Easter holidays.

Last Friday I wrote to you about our plans to provide childcare provision at our academies to support families of critical workers and vulnerable children. I am pleased to say that we have been able to deliver this over the last week through the amazing work of our leaders and staff volunteers.

Through the week we have continually reviewed the situation. A combination of sickness across all staff teams and receiving fewer pupils than we expected means that we have moved to a hub delivery arrangement across areas that we serve. I wish, therefore, to identify where each hub will be sited as well as contact details for the hub should you have any queries or need to contact the staff operating the hub. These details are also available on academy websites:

Dartford Hub (based at The Leigh Academy 01322 620400)

- The Leigh Academy
- Longfield Academy
- Wilmington Academy
- The Leigh UTC

Ebbfleet Hub (based at Cherry Orchard Primary Academy 01322 242011)

- Cherry Orchard Primary Academy
- Dartford Primary Academy
- Eastcote Primary Academy

Paddock Wood Hub (based at Paddock Wood Primary Academy 01892 833654)

- Paddock Wood Primary Academy
- Horsmonden Primary Academy
- Mascalls Academy

Milestone Hub (based at Milestone Academy 01474 709420)

- Milestone Academy
- Hartley Primary Academy

Hoo Peninsula Hub (based at Allhallows Primary Academy 01634 270428)

- Allhallows Primary Academy
- Stoke Primary Academy
- High Halstow Primary Academy

Medway Hub (based at The Hundred of Hoo Academy [secondary site] 01634 251443)

- Hundred of Hoo Academy (primary and secondary)
- Strood Academy
- Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

South East London Hub (based at The Halley Academy 020 8516 7977)

- The Halley Academy
- Stationers' Crown Woods Academy
- Leigh Academy Blackheath

Maidstone Primary Hub (based at Langley Park Primary Academy 01622 250880)

- Langley Park Primary Academy
- Oaks Primary Academy
- Molehill Primary Academy
- Tree Tops Primary Academy

Online learning

Following our first week of providing online learning for pupils, we are keen to capture feedback from parents on how this has gone so that we can address any issues and make further improvements where necessary. As such, we are making available on the academy websites a questionnaire which will only take a few moments for you to complete. If you can spare just a couple of minutes to do so, please complete one per child to assist our planning.

Free School Meals

This week we have provided free school meals in schools for all pupils who require one. Next week, we expect the government to announce a national voucher scheme for parents. Once we have this information, we will write to parents again letting those eligible know how they can take advantage of this initiative.

Easter holidays

We are currently finalising arrangements for supporting children of critical workers with childcare over the Easter holiday, including both bank holidays (Good Friday and Easter Monday). Should you require this support, please contact your child's academy. Our eight childcare hubs will be open over the Easter holiday period using staff volunteers, although in relation to the two bank holidays, all eight will not be open. Before taking your child to school, please check your academy's website for further information.

Thank you for all of your support throughout what has been a very challenging period for all concerned. Please take some time to rest this weekend and stay safe. Please continue to watch out for updates as we are keen to keep parents as well informed as possible. Leigh Academies Trust is determined to help fight COVID-19 in any way we can and support the nation to get back on its feet again.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Willis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Neil Willis
Chief Operating Officer