

Maplewell Road, Woodhouse Eaves,  
Leicestershire, LE12 8QY  
Tel: 01509 890237

Maplewell Hall Post 16  
Thorpe Hill, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4SQ  
Tel: 01509 891906

Email: [admin@maplewell.leics.sch.uk](mailto:admin@maplewell.leics.sch.uk)



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engage and promote success

6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Head Teacher: Mr J Brooks B Ed (Hons) NPQH

Dear Parent/ Carer

As you know, all schools in England are currently closed on government guidance. During the period of national lockdown, schools, alternative provisions, special schools, and colleges will remain open only to vulnerable children and young people, and the children of critical workers.

As a school, we are absolutely committed to providing as many children with a high quality educational offer as possible, and despite the challenges we face, we feel, we are in a much better place than during the previous lockdown, to provide high quality remote learning. We are obviously also keen to support the overall effort against the pandemic, by providing critical places at school for Key Workers.

Limiting numbers in school is about reducing the number of contacts that all of us have with people from other households. We have been advised that this is very important in the face of the rapidly rising numbers of cases from the new strain of Covid 19 spreading across the country, and the intense pressure this is placing on the NHS. The government will be reviewing the restrictions on schools and will ensure that children and young people return to face-to-face education, as soon as the pressures are easing on the NHS.

We are therefore requesting, that only those children of Key Workers who genuinely and urgently need to use the face-to-face provision, take up the offer. Our estimates demonstrate that if all eligible families use the facility, we may have larger numbers of students in school than we would like. Clearly, this will negate the drive to reduce transmission and numbers mixing in school and will almost certainly reduce our ability and capacity to offer a high quality education to all, potentially leading to some difficult decisions moving forwards. I am seeking your help and support in order to keep our school community as safe as we possibly can.

We are expecting all of our staff to be providing high quality remote learning on a daily basis, including a number of 'live' lessons and daily tutor times. At times, our resources will become stretched but, we will endeavour to continue to provide the highest quality support possible to all of our students and families.

Hopefully, numbers will find a sensible balance and we will be able to meet the needs of all of our students. If numbers do become excessive, we might need to implement a rota in the future, which is something that I am keen to avoid.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support. Your messages mean a lot to all of our staff. We will keep in constant contact with you throughout.

Yours sincerely

Jason Brooks  
Headteacher

