



Hillside Specialist School & College

Providing exceptional education for all students

Ribchester Road, Longridge
Preston, PR3 3XB

Head Teacher: **Paul Leaper**
Telephone: **(01772) 782205**

E Mail: hillside@hillside.lancs.sch.uk
Website: www.hillside.lancsngfl.ac.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

Since the announcement from the Prime Minister requiring schools to close from Tuesday 5 January 2021 and provide online learning, we have implemented our Google classroom resources and organized a rota for most pupils to continue to attend school in a blended learning format from Monday 11 January 2021.

Unfortunately this has taken time to organise across the age groups and I would like to thank all families for their patience for the two days we remained closed, while we collected information from families and staff. It has taken time to match family requirements and the availability of our staff team, many of whom were waiting on keyworker places for their own children.

We have been able to open up to a limited number of pupils on Thursday and Friday of this week and have notified parents of the increase in placements for a larger number of pupils from Monday. A rota has been created that will continue over the course of the half term which we will review on a weekly basis, informing parents of any forced changes we may have.

It is our intention to follow the advice of reducing the number of pupils and staff in school on a daily basis, to complement the existing safety controls we already have in place.

Can I ask that you continue to follow the existing Government advice by not sending your child into school if they or any family member displaying symptoms of Covid 19 and that you keep us informed of any symptoms, tests and results so that we can follow procedures to keep both staff and other families safe. School can be updated directly by email using our covid19@hillside.lancs.sch.uk email address.

I will write to you again over the coming weeks to update you on any further developments that we have planned and I ask that you keep in regular contact with your class teacher if you have decided to keep your child at home during this challenging period.

Please also contact your class teacher for any assistance in accessing your child's Google Classroom resources page and keep the school office up to date with any changes in your contact details.

Yours sincerely

Paul Leaper
Headteacher

