



Pilsley Primary School  
Station Road  
Pilsley  
Chesterfield S45 8EU  
Telephone 01773 872378  
Facsimile 01773 875792  
Email [info@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mr N. Snape  
Saturday, 21 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We know that we are facing some very difficult times ahead. The government have asked us to maintain social 'distancing' by minimising contact with others and over the next few months many families may end up having to self-isolate. All of us have that constant worry about what will happen to our families, young or old.

But you need to know your children's teaching teams are ready. Our staff have worked so hard over the last few weeks, not only to be there for your children as they become unwell or more anxious, but also to prepare for what's coming next. I could not wish for a more caring, skilled and dedicated staff team.

In just a week they have developed an online learning approach that we aim to be the 'anchor' your children need over the coming months. We strongly believe that if you can get your children in to a routine of accessing the work provided on Seesaw (or Tapestry for Nursery children), then we can maintain the structure they need during these difficult times. Not only will it provide a timetable for their day but also the reassurance that those teachers they have learned to trust are there for them. It will give a purpose and focus to their day, and we hope some relief for you.

But please remember, our children can hear everything that is going on around them, they will feel our constant tension and anxiety. Like you, they have never experienced anything like this before and won't understand the reality of being trapped at home and not seeing their friends. Over the coming weeks you may well see an increase in anxiety, anger and irritable behaviour. This is normal. What they will need is to feel comfort, to know they are loved, to have the support from their family so they can feel that it's going to be okay. It will make so much difference.

So, please do follow the routine the work will provide, it will have such a positive influence on your children. But remember to play outside. Go for walks, do messy play, bake, garden, sing and paint. Build dens and towers, laugh and play together. These are the things that reduce anxiety.

We will do our best to be there for you, and your children.

Take care of yourselves

Mr N Snape  
Headteacher and The Pilsley Staff Team

For detailed advice got to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

'With high expectations and aspirations for the pupils in your care, staff have created an inclusive, mutually supportive environment, where all are welcome' OFSTED 2018

