

Heathfields Infant Academy
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24th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to take this opportunity in these uncertain times, to check in as SENco (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) at Heathfields Infant & Wilnecote Junior Academy. I have already had the privilege of getting to know many of you and your children.

Your child is currently on our SEN (Special Educational Needs) register, but please don't worry if you were not aware of this news. It simply means for many different reasons, they may require a slightly different form of support, often through extra interventions or adjustments. It could be they struggle with an area of the curriculum e.g. reading, or that they have a tricky time staying focussed. The SEN register is quite fluid, children often come off and new children are added when necessary.

I truly understand that this is a very difficult and worrying time at the moment, and your children may be feeling anxious and struggling in different ways. To support you, the SEN team have added a different area on the website; to update you with resources different companies have released and ideas for you to support your children at home. In addition, there will be general strategies and more specific websites for you to look through (https://www.wilnecotejnrandheathfieldsinf.co.uk/Parents/Special_Education_Need_Support). In the background, we are compiling some resources to put on the website which may support in learning opportunities. We have asked teachers to be mindful when setting learning, so that children find it achievable (as well as parents), so please keep your eye out for this information.

I also wanted to ensure you as parents/carers, you are having time for yourselves and you're not putting yourself under too much pressure. Some of you will be working and/or supporting children at home, through these difficult times and I for one, am struggling with the balance of home schooling, work and my own wider vulnerable family's needs. Sometimes, it can all have quite a negative impact on our mental health, so please make sure you have some 'you time', even if it's a soak in the bath, a book in the garden or cup of tea while listening to your favourite music. We are no help for our children if we are drained ourselves.

If you require any further support about the learning, your first port of call is your child's teacher, via the website, but if you require further assistance, please contact me by phone or email. I'm in school on a Thursday, so I will return calls where possible.

Many thanks for your support in this difficult time.

With regards,

Mrs Harris
Assistant Headteacher & Special Educational Needs Coordinator
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