

# ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, M.Ed, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH



2 July 2020

Dear Families

## Ref: Transition 2020

I write to you to confirm the arrangements for the remainder of this term, with a particular focus on the Transition Week and the associated information for you as families as well as specific transitional support for your child.

This letter is for the attention of the families of existing and new students, with the latter being warmly welcomed to, and included in, the relevant Transition Week activities.

This academic year:

- Last day of onsite and remote provision to current classes: Thursday, 9 July 2020
- INSET day for staff: Friday, 10 July 2020 (school closed to all students)
- Transition Week: Monday, 13 July – Friday, 17 July 2020 (school closed to all students)

Please refer to the attached programme and ensure that you “save the date” for your child’s class sessions (please check the column and row carefully) and for the family information session with the Leader in Charge.

You will note that, in the coming days, your child’s next year’s Class Team will be making contact on the phone to introduce themselves. In the vast majority of the calls, you will hear from your child’s Class Teacher, but as we continue to operate within the challenges of the Coronavirus pandemic, where this is not possible at present, you will hear from the Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) who always acts as the teacher’s deputy.

Following the call, you will be sent a letter with more information about the ChattaBoard – a key tool we will be using this year to help transition and then, next year, to assist communication and learning.

I am delighted to invite you to an information e-session (via Zoom) about Chatta which will take place on Monday, 6 July 2020 at 11am (login details will be sent you this Friday via email; if you do not receive the email before Saturday, please contact Miss Sloan on [lizzy.sloan@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:lizzy.sloan@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)).

On Monday, 13 July 2020, we will also be launching our Virtual Tour of the school, which will allow us to show the “journey” from the car park, into the school buildings and into each class and common area. This, we hope, will compensate somewhat, for our inability to see each other on site. This tour will be uploaded onto our website and so, again, will be open to revisiting during the summer, which will prove helpful in preparation for September.

On Thursday, 16 July 2020, new students of the school will be able to come into the school for a tour and a meeting with key staff – this is by appointment only and limited to a student and 2 adults only (siblings are not able to join in, unfortunately). Any families of new students who have not yet taken the advantage of this opportunity, are asked to contact Ms Adair, my PA, to make an appointment for Thursday, 16 July 2020 visit.

Lastly, we are still hoping to hold our Leavers' Farewell on Friday, 17 July 2020, but the Health and Safety Team at the Local Authority is seeking advice from Public Health England on whether this can take place – I will confirm this as soon as I hear from the advisers. If we are advised not to hold it on that day, we will hold a remote Zoom session with all of the leavers and their peers and advise you accordingly. In such case, our leavers will always be warmly welcomed to return to say goodbyes in person when it is safe to do so.

To finish, as you know, we are currently awaiting governmental decision about September and the local authority guidance on the re-opening of the school to all students next year. As ever, I will keep you fully informed of the arrangements when we have the clarity on the plans ahead.

I hope you find our programme of support helpful. If you have any questions, please direct them to your child's next year's Class Teacher and the Leader in Charge – we will do our best to help, advise and support at this important junction in your child's education.

I personally look forward to seeing you all as soon as it is safe to do so!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Hildrey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs A Hildrey  
Headteacher