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11.6.2020

### **School Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well. I would just like to update you regarding our phased reopening plans.

It is with regret that I am writing to inform you that we will be unable to open school to any other year groups (Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5) this academic year. School will continue to be open for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children. When we reopen for Year 6, which Mr Duce will be in contact about shortly, we will have no additional staff capacity for any other groups due to the government guidelines and restrictions.

I appreciate that not returning to school will be difficult for lots of children and families but we will endeavour to support you in any way we can. We will continue to set home learning tasks each week and please remember you can contact school through the class email system with any questions or to share any learning your child has completed at home. We have very much enjoyed hearing from you and seeing all the activities you have been doing. The staff at Newton Hill will soon be contacting parents/carers of year groups who are not in school to ensure that you have everything you need in order to continue to support learning at home. You can also contact school through [admin@newton-hill.org.uk](mailto:admin@newton-hill.org.uk).

Whilst there are huge benefits to being online in order to stay connected to family and friends during this period, the government recognises many parents may feel concerned about the activities and content their children are accessing. The guidance below outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to receive support and advice.

### **Keep your child safe online**

It is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online.

These resources provide guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online. They will, amongst other things, support you to talk to your child about a range of online safety issues, set up home filtering in a child-friendly way and set up age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices:

- [Thinkuknow](#) by National Crime Agency-CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) provides resources for parents and carers and children of all ages to help keep children safe online
- [Childnet](#) has developed [guidance for parents and carers](#) to begin a conversation about online safety, as well as [guidance on keeping under-fives safe online](#)
- [Parent Info](#) is a collaboration between Parent Zone and NCA-CEOP, providing support and guidance for parents and carers related to the digital world from leading experts and organisations

- NSPCC has [guidance for parents and carers](#) to help keep children safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) provides tips and advice for parents and carers to keep children safe online - you can also [report any harmful content found online through the UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

### **Age-inappropriate content and parental controls**

If you have downloaded new apps or bought new technology to help stay connected at this time, remember to review and adjust privacy and safety settings if you or your child is signing up to a new online service.

[Internet Matters](#) has [provided step-by-step guides](#) on how to set up parental controls so that you can control what content your child can access online.

The [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has developed guidance on how to switch on family-friendly filters to prevent age-inappropriate content being accessed on devices in your home.

The [NSPCC](#) provides more information for parents or carers with concerns about their child seeking inappropriate or explicit content online.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online>

Thank you for your continued support at this difficult time. We send our very best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely,

*C. Wheatley*

Mrs C Wheatley – Headteacher