



## Hillside First School

Hillside Road, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 7HE

[office@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk)

[www.hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk)

Tel: 01202 822737

Headteacher: Mr Jeremy Harrison [jharrison@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:jharrison@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk)

9<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Almost three weeks have passed since our school life, as we know it, changed dramatically for the foreseeable future. We are all missing the children and I know that staff have really appreciated the supportive messages received from some of you.

We would like to say well done and thank you for all of your efforts with trying to maintain some normality for the children by having a go at the home learning challenges. We understand that this is an unsettling and difficult time and hope that the learning suggested so far has been both manageable and fun.

We want to take this opportunity to reassure you that it really does not matter how much work is completed. We will continue to provide a range of tasks each week, but there is no expectation set or reward for the child who completes the most. Everyone is different and every family is facing different challenges unique to them.

Some children may be thriving on having some structure and completing as many tasks as possible, whereas others will struggle to have this approach. Please do not worry if your child is reluctant. Continue to encourage as much as you can but most importantly, at this incredibly stressful time, it is vital that you do not put undue pressure on yourselves or the children. We have all been thrown into a situation that we have never faced before and that we have no control over.

Finally, we want to remind you that we are here should you need any advice or support. The children (and adults) are missing their friends and routines, which is why it is so crucial that we all, wherever possible, use this time to enjoy being together as families. Have fun, play games, be creative and, most importantly of all, take care of each other.

With kind regards

**Jeremy Harrison**  
Headteacher

**WIMBORNE**  
Academy Trust



Allenbourn Middle School Colehill First School Emmanuel Middle School Hayeswood First School Hillside First School Lockyer's Middle School  
Merley First School Queen Elizabeth's School St John's First School St Michael's Middle School Verwood First School Witchampton First School

Wimborne Academy Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 09362004. Registered office address: % Allenbourn Middle School, East Borough, Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 1PL. Wimborne Academy Trust is an exempt charity.