



# Upton Primary Newsletter

20th March 2020

**Upton-upon-Severn CofE Primary, Nursery and Pre School and Riverboats SureStart Children's Centre, working together to support the local community**

**Our School Vision is to offer inspiration to young lives  
'Anything is possible, we can all succeed'  
'To inspire ... To aspire'**

**I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. *Philippians 4:13***

Bible quote for this week:

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you.

*John 1:2*

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

This afternoon we have been sent some guidance from the Worcestershire Local Authority regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. This guidance makes it very clear that where children can safely stay at home they should do so to limit the chance of the virus spreading. This information is attached in full with today's Newsletter to enable you all to read it through and be aware of the challenges we are facing.

The local schools, Hanley Swan Primary School and Welland Primary School, have both struggled with significant staff absences and, as a result, we have created an 'Upton Hub'. This means that from Monday the children whose parents are **CRITICAL** to the COVID-19 response will be able to have the access to schools they require.

## PARENTAL SUPPORT

We have been overwhelmed with the very many positive comments that you have given us both at the gate and via email. From the start of this virus spreading to our country we have been very pro-active in ensuring that we give your children the best protection we possibly can. We started using the handgel a number of weeks ago and from Thursday 12th March we cancelled any external contact including parental engagement. Thank you for your support during what is an unprecedented crisis. Please be reassured that we continue to work as hard as possible to provide your children with the best care as we are able during this difficult time.

We have received some lovely feedback from parents which we would like to share with you:

"Thank you for all your help in keeping things running smoothly at school and for keeping our children safe and panic free. We equally wish you and all staff a safe time ahead with your families and thank you again for the continued support."

"I just want to say that you have done an outstanding job at keeping us informed. Thank you."

"Just a note to say we think you are doing a great job in totally mental times. Well done! No doubt you are doing the absolute best you can!"

"I just want to Thankyou all so much for looking after us all so well during these times. Your hard work and dedication to our children never goes unnoticed and as a mum I deeply appreciate all you continue to do. I hope you find a solution for the people that need you and just once again want to Thankyou."

"Please can you thank all the staff for all they and you are doing at the moment. You're all superstars, we really appreciate it!"

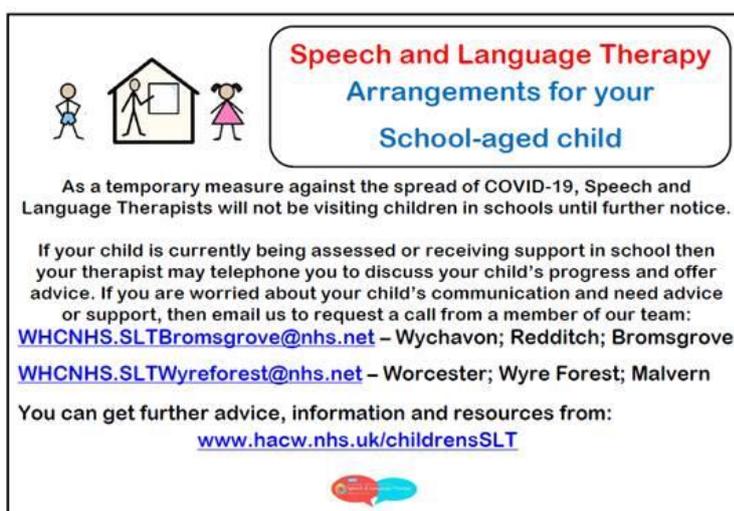
"Please can you thank all the staff for all they and you are doing at the moment. You're all superstars, we really appreciate it!"

"I just wanted to let you know that I think you have all done a fantastic job providing parents with very clear and accurate information, providing our children with support and reassurance and for forward planning with their school work and festival project (a great idea) - it's only when you hear of other parents experiences does it make you appreciate and understand how much planning you (upton) have undertaken and no doubt stress you are all under."

"I just wanted to say well done on the frequent and timely communication in this ever evolving situation."

### **SPEECH AND LANGUAGE - Coping with change**

There are a lot of changes at the moment – here are five ways to help children cope with change:



**Speech and Language Therapy Arrangements for your School-aged child**

As a temporary measure against the spread of COVID-19, Speech and Language Therapists will not be visiting children in schools until further notice.

If your child is currently being assessed or receiving support in school then your therapist may telephone you to discuss your child's progress and offer advice. If you are worried about your child's communication and need advice or support, then email us to request a call from a member of our team:

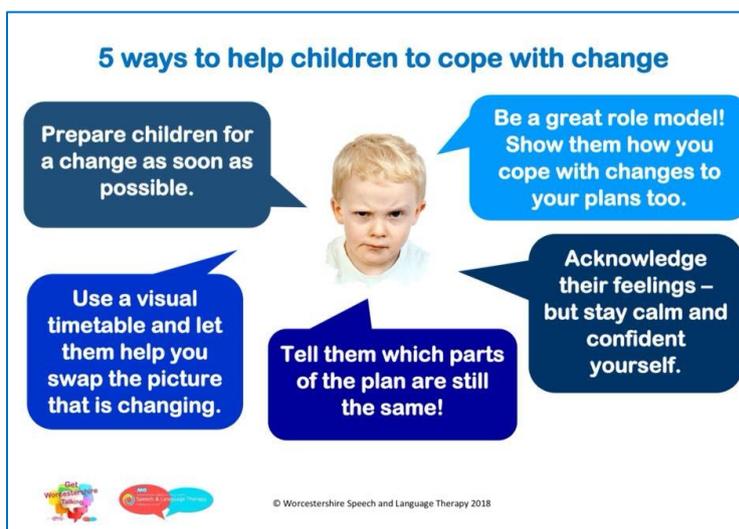
[WHCNHS.SLTBromsgrove@nhs.net](mailto:WHCNHS.SLTBromsgrove@nhs.net) – Wychavon; Redditch; Bromsgrove

[WHCNHS.SLTWyreforest@nhs.net](mailto:WHCNHS.SLTWyreforest@nhs.net) – Worcester; Wyre Forest; Malvern

You can get further advice, information and resources from:  
[www.hacw.nhs.uk/childrensSLT](http://www.hacw.nhs.uk/childrensSLT)

If you want to make a visual timetable for home [www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk) have some free to download.

Speech and Language Therapy will not be visiting the school until further notice, and the drop-in sessions are cancelled. However if your child is known to Speech and Language Therapy Keren Somers (Speech and Language Therapist) will be in touch to offer support for intervention at home. Parents of any child in the school can also contact Keren on (01562) 752 749.



**5 ways to help children to cope with change**

- Prepare children for a change as soon as possible.
- Use a visual timetable and let them help you swap the picture that is changing.
- Tell them which parts of the plan are still the same!
- Acknowledge their feelings – but stay calm and confident yourself.
- Be a great role model! Show them how you cope with changes to your plans too.

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# COMMUNITY



## Do you need a helping hand?

- Are you stuck at home and need a pint of milk or a few days shopping?
- Worried about what to do and need a friend to chat with?
- Need a prescription collecting from the pharmacy, would like a magazine or newspaper?
- Struggling to afford extra food or run out of something essential?
- Need someone to walk the dog or take the cat to the vet?

## WE CAN HELP

Are you safely at home because of the concern around Coronavirus, worried about going out but need a helping hand or someone to talk to? Just call **Stay Connected** Upton and one of our friendly volunteers will help you out -**that is what neighbours are for!**

We can deliver your food, do a shop, drop off and collect medicine or even walk your dog

**Call the **Stay Connected** Helpline on **01684 594991**  
between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday and we will help you stay connected**

If you don't need to stay home and want to have a cup of tea with a friendly face then pop in to Renew Upton at Upton Baptist Church Monday - Friday 10am-3pm

**Stay Connected** is for everyone in Upton and the surrounding areas during the Coronavirus Outbreak and is run by Upton Town Council and Upton Baptist Church



## **Emergency Food for Local People in Crisis**

**The Foodbank Distribution Centre, during the school closure period, has relocated to the Baptist Church, 45 & 47 Old Street, Upton upon Severn WR8 0HN.**

**It will be open between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday. Telephone number: 01684 594991**

Clients need to have been provided with a food voucher from a Referral Agency in order to collect any food.

Our main Distribution Centre is:

Unit 4, Spring Court, Spring Lane South Malvern, WR14 1AT

Open: Mondays: 10:15 to 12:45, Tuesdays 1pm to 3.30pm and Thursdays: 10:15 to 12:45

T: 01684 564491

E: [info@malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk)

W: [www.malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk)

Food can also be collected from one of our distribution centres at: The Lyttelton Well, Church Street, Malvern (including Sat), and Sunshine Children's Centre, Bluebell Close, Malvern

Stuart Edlington - Referral Agency Coordinator