



Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends of Haseltine,

I really hope that you and your families are well; I am aware that many of you have suffered losses, and have been through very difficult times. I would like you to know that all of Haseltine's thoughts and wishes are with you. Please reach out to us (and to me) if any of you need support of any kind. I am now in school every day (unless I have a meeting), so you can ring to speak with me any time on the Haseltine number: 02087786536

Not only are we all dealing with this awful pandemic since March, but the last few weeks, since the murder of George Floyd, especially have been incredibly hard for us all - I can't possibly imagine how incredibly harrowing it must be for the members of our BAME community especially. I have put the following statement on the Haseltine website:

#BLACKLIVESMATTER

Black Lives Matter in Lewisham

A message from Pinaki Ghoshal, Lewisham's Executive Director for Children and Young People and Angela Scattergood, Director of Education.

The Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan has published a statement on behalf of Lewisham Council in response to the killing of George Floyd in the United States. You can read the full statement here:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/articles/news/black-lives-matter-in-lewisham>

We believe that our schools and settings are key to tackling racism and other forms of discrimination. We will support all Lewisham schools and settings in their commitment to standing against racism and injustice, alongside and in solidarity with the local and global Black community.

Haseltine Primary School has always been a warm and welcoming place for everyone; we believe it always will be. Tolerance, equality and respect are values that are at the heart of everything that we do and everything we teach. We are always here for you, regardless of your race, sexuality, gender, religion or anything else which makes you, you.

Today and every other day, all of us at Haseltine stand as one with our black pupils, staff, parents and the entire BAME community in condemning racism. #BlackLivesMatter

I know that some teachers have been sending out resources to support you with your children's learning about this but if you would like further guidance, information or support, please reach out to us. Equally, if you know of any good resources to support children, parents or the school please also get in touch.

The older children have been doing some great learning on Black Lives Matter this week at Haseltine too; they really are very insightful young people. Here are some of the amazing posters they have made...



It feels like it has been such a long, long time since I have written a newsletter to you all and I would like to apologise for that. As you can imagine, Haseltine has been a very different place over the last twelve weeks and there has been a lot to organise. I thought that I would write to you all to let you know what is happening now at the school and I will continue to write to you all over the next few to let you know what will be happening.

What is happening at Haseltine now?

Since lockdown started, Haseltine has been open for our key worker families throughout term time and through the holidays. Up to 20 children had been attending on any day up to the half term.

Since half term, we have split groups of children into what we are calling bubbles and as from Monday we will have 7 bubbles in school:

- One for Key Worker families
- Two for year 6 pupils
- One for year 1 children who are also key worker children
- One for other year 1 children
- Two for reception children

These children stay within their bubble all day; they are not mixing; and they have the same adults within their bubble. There are no more than 12 children in each bubble; except for the key worker bubble, this has more because we have managed to base it in a bigger space.

Not all Haseltine staff are able to be in work and so the bubble adults are not necessarily the children's class teachers or LSAs.

We have staggered start & end times for each bubble too, different playtimes and different entrances so to limit the contact between bubbles further.

This all sounds incredibly daunting and strange; and you would think that the children would not like it but we are finding that the children are just enjoying being back in school; being back with their friends and being back in the learning – although it isn't quite what they would normally be doing.

Our bubbles are now full but if you think that you would like your child to return and if they are in Reception, year 1 and year 6, please ring us or email us at admin@haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk and we will add your child to a waiting list – we will then contact you when a place becomes available. This also applies to key worker families of any year group. Unfortunately, we are unable to have children from years 2-5 back to Haseltine at this point, the government announced on Tuesday of this week that these year groups would not be returning this term.

What about the children not in school?

The teachers, those working from home and those needing to be in school, will still be providing learning for your children until the end of term. This will continue in the same way as before.

They will also still continue to contact you and your children, although for those teachers working in school more now, you can imagine that they may not be able to do this quite as much. We apologise in advance for this. Don't forget that you can contact me at any point for any support that you may need – the number is above.

We are looking at how we can introduce lessons via the Zoom platform but this type of learning has pitfalls: a good internet connection being one – almost impossible in my house when we are all trying to get online.

What will school look like in September?

It is impossible to answer this question at this stage; we just do not know. Everything that we have done so far has been under the guidance of the government and as I am sure you are aware, there has been no firm guidance yet – there has been speculation but no concrete guidance. New evidence about this virus seems to be emerging all the time – some provides more clarity, some does not. As soon as there is guidance, we will be able to plan and we will be able to communicate these plans with you. I promise you that we will share everything with you as soon as we can; I will tell you that schools are finding out what we need to at the same time as you do.

I miss you all so much (not just your children but you too) and I wish that I could just click my fingers and we all be back to normal; but unfortunately, we all know that can't happen.

I will write to you all again in a couple of weeks with further updates but will obviously be in touch sooner if any new information comes through.

Best wishes to you all and to your families,

Sara Anderman