



# ST LEVAN PRIMARY SCHOOL



BULLETIN 25 20TH APRIL 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

Firstly we send our sincere best wishes to each and everyone. A huge Thank you for all your efforts in following the lockdown rules. Together we really are saving lives.

Thank you so much also for supporting your children in their learning opportunities created by Miss Ferguson and Miss Finch.

We all continue to be in unknown territory in this new way of learning and very much hope what is available is manageable and interesting and above all you know that it is not essential to complete everything or indeed for learning to be accessed every day-unless that suits your routine as a family.

I personally am finding it very challenging supporting my 14 and 12 year old two grandsons, who both attend different secondary schools in their set learning. Motivation is not always in plentiful supply and that's just me!

We can all only do our best during this journey, so please, please, prioritise keeping as happy, healthy and safe as possible.

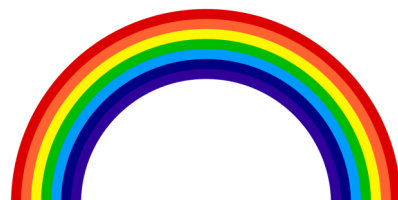
Currently my union the National Association of Headteachers (NAHT) is very clear about what needs to be in place before any schools reopen as before.

Following in blue text is an extract from their latest briefing emailed out to all members...

We will update you whenever we have any significant news or changes and Bulletins will be posted on line and emailed every fortnight and we hope to include examples of children's learning. If you have any images of children learning or just enjoying being outside etc. please do email them to [secretary@st-levan.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@st-levan.cornwall.sch.uk) so that we can include uplifting and fun images of this new life. Hope is on the horizon and we will continue to support you. Please email any concerns queries etc. to the secretary email as above and Paula will forward to the headteacher to address or signpost.

We will include updated safeguarding information in response to Covid 19 on our school website in due course. In the meantime for any urgent enquiries, if you are unable to contact us, you can call the Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) on 03001231116 or email multi agency referral [unit@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:unit@cornwall.gov.uk) for advice. On line safety information is included after the NAHT extract.

**Many many thanks - keep safe - sincere best wishes from Sue Smith and all staff and governors**



“NAHT's position as at 17.04.20 remains that schools should only reopen when the scientific evidence is clear that it is safe to do so. Safe for pupils, safe for staff and safe for parents.

Although today's announcement from the government will at least give some short-term relief from speculation, the discussion is bound to begin again as we approach the next review point.

Our statement will remain clear, unambiguous and intentionally broad.

Until we know what the government has in mind and until we know what the science will say at the time the government signals a return, it is unhelpful to pre-empt what it might do or react to speculation. This is because it would simply add to the damaging cycle of commentary and false expectation. As we have seen already, comments can be easily misinterpreted or taken out of context.

Below is a list of just a few of the key questions that we will make sure the government is considering:

1. What is our level of confidence in the scientific and medical advice relied on by the government for any decisions concerning a return?
2. Will school teams have access to reliable and timely safety advice as circumstances change?
3. Is there clarity that social distancing in most school settings is impossible to achieve? If so, have wider social distancing rules been relaxed and to what effect? Are plans appropriate to each phase and setting?
4. Although the safety of children is always the first thing on the minds of school leaders, it is not just about how the virus is dealt with by the young. Transmission from children to adults, teachers, carers, elderly relatives, is of equal concern. How will a return to school impact on such risks, especially for those with family members in vulnerable categories?
5. What consideration is the government giving to individual schools' readiness to return? Rota changes and other factors will dictate how many people are available to respond to the expectations of the government. School leaders, teachers and support teams are all subject to the same health concerns, domestic pressures, isolation expectations and caring responsibilities as the rest of society.
6. What consideration is the government giving to the role of PPE and testing as part of any plan to return to school?

The NAHT also states:

Teachers should not be asked to personally contact individual students. Teachers should not use personal phones or emails for any contact. It is extremely important that all schools remind their staff and pupils of their policies for safe internet usage and review whether any specific changes to the policy need to be made to take the new circumstances into account. (\*see on line safety update following)

Schools should also consider setting out a clear statement for parents, which details the school's approach to any home learning and protocols for communication between school and home. ...

**\*\*here is ours...**

**St Levan LA School Home Distance Learning Protocol** during COVID 19 lockdown, adheres to all union guidance and is as follows:

\*Taking care of your physical and mental health is crucial at this time: this goes for children, parents and teachers. Keeping minds active and happy, ready to return to school when the time comes is the most important factor.

- Teachers working at home can only carry out a reasonable workload and this must be negotiated with staff.
- Teachers should not be asked to personally contact their students.
- Teachers must not use personal phones, emails or social media to carry out any contact.
- Teachers should not live-stream lessons from their homes, nor engage in any video-calling.
- Online lessons are not desirable for primary children as the teacher-pupil interaction is not easily replicated. Many children need a lot of guidance when working and cannot be left for long periods of time to complete complex tasks.
- Schools should suggest activities that children can complete on their own. We must recognise that many parents are also trying to work from home, and parents might struggle to assist with schoolwork for a number of reasons. Parents cannot be expected to become teachers.
- Tasks that do not need the internet or a device such as a laptop or tablet to access them are preferable, as some children and families will not have internet access or more than one device to use.
- Work and tasks should suit the age range and capabilities of the children and expected outcomes should be flexible. Try to set tasks that all pupils can complete to some degree of success, with extra and more stretching activities for the more able.
- Work that can be done in bite-sized chunks is more likely to be completed than longer tasks. If there are projects, suggest how these could be broken down.
- Schools should not be setting SATs tests or mocks at this time.
- A list of flexible tasks that cover different areas of the curriculum allows children to choose the tasks that interest them, and the ones parents feel they can manage.
- It is most beneficial and realistic to offer a variety of tasks which are done working at a table (keep these to a minimum) or while moving around, including creative tasks. · Concerns to the school during this time email [secretary@st-levan.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@st-levan.cornwall.sch.uk) and the communication will be passed on to the Headteacher to address or signpost. Local Authority services will be utilised fully in support of any necessary action.

## **Online Safety**

As your children may now be working online more of the time, it is important to ensure that online safety is a priority. Please make sure that you and your child are aware of the following organisations:

**Childline** - for support; **UK Safer Internet Centre** - to report and remove harmful online content; **CEOP** - for advice on making a report about online abuse.

Make sure that you are also aware of what your child/children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will have to access and who from St Levan School your child/children are going to be interacting with online. Please also make sure your child/children do not share their usernames/ passwords for the website/Times Tables Rock Stars etc. with anyone else.

If you choose to access support from online companies and/or individual tutors as well, please make sure that your other online support is from a reputable organisation /individual who can provide evidence that they are safe and can be trusted to have access to children.

The following organisations offer support to parents about keeping their children safe online: -


London Grid for Learning - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online  
Internet matters - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online  
Net-aware - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC  
Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online  
Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online  
UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers.

The guidance below also outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to receive support and advice:

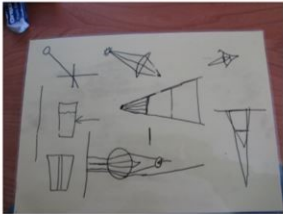
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronaviruscovid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

## **Science learning at home - a shining example - well done Nathan ☺**

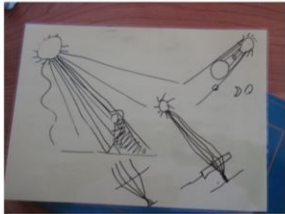
### day 2 light experiment



Me making  
holes in black  
paper.



A picture of  
light  
bending.



The rest of  
the picture.