



# Colmers Farm Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you've all had a good Christmas break and a happy new year to you all.

Well, this week didn't turn out quite as planned thanks to us all entering another lockdown. What a start to 2021. At Colmers Farm though we have been planning for this. Although we can no longer have all of our children back, we have been open to the children of key workers and vulnerable children this week. If you would like to access this provision, please contact our school office to let us know this by the Wednesday before you would like your child to start and we will be able to book you a place. Please note:

- We are asking all parents who drop off children to wear a face mask whilst on the school grounds;
- We would like all children in school to wear their school uniform.

For children who are learning from home, we have provided two alternatives to access learning:

- (1) We are offering daily live lessons to all of our children (led by teachers from our school) for Years 1-6. These are accessible via Google Classroom (<https://classroom.google.com/u/0/h>). All of the children have received their login details for this. If these have been misplaced, please contact our school office and they will be able to share these with you. We are really pleased and proud of the way that our children have embraced this new way of learning during this week. I have visited several of these lessons this week and I've been so impressed with the children's engagement and the teacher's creativity. Well done everybody!
- (2) You can access paper-based learning. We ask, where possible, that you come into school to collect this learning for the week which is available from each Monday. If you are unable to collect this, we can post this, but it may take a few days to arrive.

Please view <https://www.colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org/assets/Documents/Coronavirus/CFPS-Blendedlearningv3-v2.pdf> which outlines our offer to our children during this lockdown. This document also contains the times of the live lessons for our children to access.

During each week, you will receive a phone call from your child's class teacher (unless your children are part of our key worker provision). If you do require support with your children at home, please let us know and we will do all we can to support you.

I hope that you enjoy the weekend. Let's hope that 2021 improves for us all.

Mr Williams  
Headteacher

# From Birmingham with Love



We've all been through a tough time with Covid-19 and repeated lockdowns. For many families it can get harder over Winter, which is why we're here to help. Here are some of our partners' most used services and support, which might make life a little bit easier...



1. **Online parenting course.** We've pre-paid for every parent in Birmingham to access a [parenting course](#). Just enter the access code "COMMUNITY" at the top of the page to claim. There are courses for parents, carers and grandparents of children from bump to 19. Learn about how your child develops, and get tips to manage their behaviour.



2. **Mental health support.** In these difficult times we have to look after our mental health. For young people aged 11-25 there are forums, guides and counselling available at [Kooth](#). If your child 0-25 needs support, get in touch with Pause by calling 0207 841 4470 or [email](#). Adults can get support from [MIND](#) by calling 0121 262 3555. Or for urgent help call [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#) on 0300 300 0099.



3. **Financial help.** If you've lost your job, or are struggling for food or rent there are services that can help. [Local welfare provision](#) can make a big difference if you are in a crisis and need food, fuel or basic white goods. [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be able to help with rent. And there are [food banks](#) across Birmingham that are here to help.



4. **Domestic abuse.** For women and children affected by domestic abuse please see [guidance](#) or confidentially contact [Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid](#). For Men, please contact [Respect](#).



5. **Problems with drugs or alcohol.** A new, discrete app called Staying Free is available on Android or Apple. Use the code "birmingham11" for pre-paid access. To speak to someone call [Change Grow Live](#).



6. **Bereavement support.** It's a terrible time to lose a loved one — you can get help by calling 0121 687 8010 or from [Cruse](#).



7. **Early help for families.** If anyone in your family needs more help, from public services or community groups, then please contact our [voluntary sector local leads](#). We have ten areas which can connect you to support across the city.

If you are worried about a child, please call Birmingham's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, including child abuse, contact the Police on 999. You can also [chat](#) to the Police.