

# Willow Brook Contact

## 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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Good afternoon!

I hope this rather cloudy Monday has not dampened your spirits in any way. It has certainly prompted a more 'indoor' approach to school this morning. After a game of football, Miss Brearey and Mrs Sampson are busily making a robot with boxes and masking tape. There are children there... somewhere!

Your emails over the last few days have been very welcome. As we send newsletters, work and have the pleasure of a quick conversation with those who pass the school gates during our day, it's so good to feel in touch and hear your news. As I have said in some emails, the teachers miss your children as much as they miss us.

Your simple resourcefulness is just inspiring, and I sincerely hope that you feel that your routine and time together at home is as positive as it could be. After 'Creative Friday' last week, I've received family newsletters, videos of singing and dancing, works of art and photos of cookery and model making. I have already had parent and teacher nominations for our Virtual Bench of Glory at the end of this week and it all showcases a busy community. We have invested in a Vimeo account so that uploading livelier and face-friendly contact is possible (and works within school's safeguarding policies). Hopefully we will have mastered the technicalities in time for a Friday assembly.

In such an unprecedented time, the staff and governors at Willow Brook are so keen to support you all in any way that we can. In a similar sentiment expressed by the Government this week, we understand how we can improve and get our actions right by listening to your requests and encouraging your feedback. We know in some areas we can't make everyone happy, and, in such circumstances, we do what we feel is best, but there are undoubtedly personal experiences that could teach us how best to move forward. If you feel we could help you more, get in touch. We'd be happy to listen and act. Whilst there may be unique individual requirements, the following may apply:

- Whilst we understand that everyone in school has an email connection to us, we would welcome contact from any families who are struggling to access communication, work from teachers or online resources. We would be happy to offer any appropriate assistance. We have tried to be considerate in all that we have developed so that there is equality but let us know if we can help.
- If work set by teachers is easier to complete in paper form and you have printing issues, we may be able to print and deliver/post upon request – anything to make your interaction easier.
- To assist families who may now be experiencing financial difficulties due to changes in employment since lockdown, there are now systems in place to provide temporary free school meals. If you feel this may apply to you or you face any concerns over providing for your children, please let us know. Your requests will be treated with confidentiality and great care.

If your child is missing their weekly instrumental lesson and they wish to continue with their clarinet or keyboard tuition with online lessons, the Music Hub are now offering individual lessons. You can sign up independently and pay the company directly. Follow this link:

**[Online Registration Form for Parents](#)**

They have subsidised the price to enable as many as possible to access individual lessons. A 20 minute individual lesson is the same price as a shared lesson was. This is £33.95 for a half-term block of lessons.

Whether you take up the offer or not, keep playing! Mastering an instrument is a fabulous skill and practice WILL make perfect!

Have a good week and I will look forward to being in touch before Friday. Keep in touch with us too. We miss you!

With very kind regards,

Louise Ballard