



~ Every Child Matters Every Day ~

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Dear Parents

Thank you all for the wonderful way everyone has responded to the reduced school opening and subsequent national lockdown.

We are limited in the space we have in school as, like in the first lockdown, we are now socially distancing in classrooms which in itself, means we have limited spaces in each classroom to group children in bubbles. If you are a critical worker but there is someone at home who can look after the children, please do keep them at home as this is the safest place for them and helps minimise the risk of spreading the virus within the community.

If your child is back at school, please remember they will be expected in school *every* day. During the first lockdown, when we had children for different times and days, we were unable to teach them and were more of a child care facility. This time we must ensure that the children maintain the progress they have started to make since returning to school and avoid any fall back. This means we need children to engage fully at school or fully with the remote learning. Work will be differentiated and geared at what the children need to work towards.

School will revert back to the times of the normal school day:

Reception – Y6 8.50am-3.15pm TW/Nurs – 8.30-11.30am morning session, 12.30-3.30pm afternoon session.

All the other expectations for coming into school – gates/doors, social distancing - are as last term.

If your child is at home, please access the online learning provision set up with Purple Mash/Teams/Tapestry as below.

Key Stage Two

Every day your child will need to log on to Microsoft Teams, to meet up with classmates and one of their year group teachers to find out what is planned for the day, discuss any new concepts they might meet and also to simply stay in touch for their own well being. This will be a good chance for your child to touch base with their teacher and peers and should help to bring a sense of normality to their day. The times for the Teams meetings are:

Year 3: 10:30 am Year 4: 10:00 am Year 5: 9:30 am Year 6: 2:30 pm

The teacher will take a register as at school, explain about what activities are planned for them to do that day on Purple Mash. Alongside this, there will be a discussion blog that the teacher will monitor, where children and parents can ask questions if they are unsure about anything. When work has been completed, the teacher will be able to mark it and give feedback where appropriate. This will lead the discussions the next day and the work that is set for them to do. It may be that the teacher or a TA will arrange to have another Teams meeting during the day with some children to go over any concept that has not been understood.

You will be sent an e mail containing your child's username and password for Microsoft Teams today.

Teachers will also be monitoring the work completed on line to ensure children are completing it and not focusing too much on one area only. Occasionally, your child may be asked to redo a piece of work that they have previously handed in with some advice on how to do something differently. This could happen if the teacher believes that your child wasn't as focussed as they could be or that they could improve a piece of work by adding in new features.

Key Stage One

We realised during the last lockdown that it was difficult for our younger children to engage with Teams as successfully as we would hope. So we will be embedding short daily videos onto Purple Mash, focusing on their phonics which will



also enable children to see their teachers. Then, activities will be set on Purple Mash for the children to do, which teachers will mark and feedback will be given as appropriate.

Daily instructions and phonic video links (via our Year 1 and Year 2 YouTube channel) will be loaded onto the Year 1 and Year 2 blog every morning. Please follow these instructions before you access the day's online learning. Follow these instructions to access the blog:

- On the Purple Mash homepage, click on 'Sharing'
- Click on 'Shared Blogs'
- Click on Year 1 or Year 2 blog

We will also be uploading story time sessions throughout the week for the children to enjoy.

Teachers will monitor who is accessing the work and ensure a balance is being completed.

Early Years

Teachers will post teaching videos and activities on Tapestry for the children to do.

Teachers will post teaching videos on Tapestry for the children to do. **IT IS VITAL THAT YOU REGISTER FOR TAPESTRY AND ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT TO ACCESS THESE.** There will be three short teaching videos for Teeny Weenies and Nursery: Story, maths and literacy based. For Reception there will be four: Phonics, maths, literacy and story based. There will also be suggested activities for you to do during the day with the children as before.

Deaf Base

All deaf children to access their year group's learning on Purple Mash/ Tapestry and signed support will be provided during the Microsoft Teams sessions in KS2.

We want to keep a work/life balance for children and staff but we also realise that some children may not be able to access devices until later in the day if they are waiting for parents to come home or sharing with siblings. Work can be posted at any time but we would encourage you to ensure your child is not spending all day on their devices and limit the work sessions to reasonable lengths of time, certainly no more than they would do at school. Staff may be marking at various times but work posted after 5.30pm may not be marked until the following day.

Teachers will also contact parents of children who are not engaging with the remote learning (and Teams meeting where appropriate) to see if there is any further technical support needed or other issues that may be preventing this.

Home Learning Packs

If your child is unable to access the online learning, we will still provide home learning packs. Please inform school on Wednesday or before by ringing the Office (up to 4pm) or e mailing the relevant key stage if your child will need one, so we can print the relevant amount of packs off to be ready to **collect on Thursday**. We are awaiting the allocation of more devices from the DfE as the Prime Minister said, so please can you also let us know if you have internet access as we may be able to allocate you one for online learning instead.

Home packs will provide work for two weeks. If the lockdown continues for the half term as is possible, we will need you to pick up a new pack at the end of the two weeks. Please bring back the work done at the same time so teachers can monitor and mark/feedback on the work done. We will put some simple resources where needed in the packs that children can keep at home during the lock down. Where reading books are sent home, please send back with the work completed so you collect new ones in the next pack.

Phone calls home

There may be occasions when a teacher will phone you to check how your child is getting on with the work set and their general well-being. Please be aware that when staff call to check in with children, the number will come up as No ID. Please do answer these calls.

Any queries do contact school or the relevant Key stage e mail address.

With best wishes and thanks for your support,