

---

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### **Remote Learning Expectations**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday we had our first day of 'live' online lessons as part of our remote learning plan. I have been really impressed with how quickly the staff have adapted their plans for delivering lessons in the classroom to being at home teaching remotely with not much more than a laptop and a mini whiteboard, in the space of 24 hours! The positive response from pupils and parents and the eagerness to get on to MS Teams to engage with the activities has been brilliant to see! There will undoubtedly be a few teething problems as we settle into this new way of teaching and learning, so please bear with us. I am sure staff would welcome your constructive feedback over the next few days, as they are keen to make remote learning as manageable and accessible as possible. During the lockdown in March, engagement in the learning activities set was optional. This is **not the case** this time round. The Government have made it very clear that remote learning is **compulsory**.

To make sure that this is as safe and effective as possible, can we just inform all parent and carers of the following expectations:

#### **General Requirements**

- Pupils must attend ALL registration sessions and online lessons on time. These are NOT optional. If your child has to miss a lesson for any reason (for example illness, medical appointments) please contact the school office to give the reason for absence. Although we are not able to open fully, standard attendance procedures still apply.
- If your child is attending school they will follow the same timetable as pupils who are remote learning. Pupils in Key Stages 2 and 3 will need their kindle in school every day for their online lessons.
- If pupils are attending school on a part time basis they must follow their remote timetable for the times when they aren't in school.
- All work which is set to accompany live lessons needs to be completed.
- Most class teachers are working from home. They are busy planning, delivering and assessing all the live teaching sessions and the written work which supports them. They are, as always, happy to reply to your emails, questions and concerns as soon as they can but please do not expect an instant reply. If you have an urgent problem which does require an immediate response please call the office on 01452 521872. Please note the office hours are from 8.30am to 3.30pm.

### **Keeping safe during online learning:**

- Your consent for your child to participate in 'live' lessons is automatically assumed by the teacher when your child logs into the session. If you do not want your children to participate in live teaching, please inform the class teacher directly via email explaining reasons why. We do expect all children to engage in learning during lockdown and follow the appropriate programmes of study.
- Children should be online in a communal area of the house (i.e. not a bedroom) and children should be appropriately dressed. If your child's camera is turned on, please be aware of what may be visible in the background. Other members of your family may not wish to have a starring role in the lesson!
- During live lessons, children should not be alone in the house and a parent should be nearby for safeguarding and for the purposes of supporting learning.
- Children are asked to behave appropriately during lessons as they would in school and follow the teacher's instructions. They may be muted at different times so that the teacher can be heard.
- Please encourage your children to use MS Teams appropriately - only uploading work they have been asked to or comments that are relevant to the teaching. Sometimes when children engage in the 'chat' facility it can be very confusing for others and this can lead to problems and misunderstandings. A basic rule is if you wouldn't say it to your teacher, please don't write it on the feed!
- If parents have any safeguarding concerns during live teaching, please refer them via email or phone to myself or Mrs Matthews.

### **Live Lessons**

- The microphone on school kindles is sensitive. Please keep background noise to a minimum during lessons.
- We understand that parents may wish to be nearby during lessons to support their child. Please can we remind you to refrain from having loud conversations, playing loud music or making comments about other children during lessons. This is extremely disruptive and can be upsetting to the children. Please be kind and respectful when online.

We have structured our remote learning schedule to reflect a 'normal' school day. Please ensure your children have regular breaks and do something physical to break up the time spent looking at a screen. There will be no teaching on a Wednesday afternoon, as this is the teacher's PPA time.

If you have any questions about our remote learning systems, please do not hesitate to contact either your child's class teacher or the school office.

Kind regards,



Mrs J Bevan  
Co-Headteacher