



18th January 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Below, I have listed some services and support which may be of help; please let me know if there is more we can do to support:

Heating costs for home-schooling:

Many families may see dramatic increases in their utility bills over the next few weeks, particularly for heating costs. There is some support for those on lower incomes via local authorities <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-winter-grant-scheme> and there may be extra help from directly from the suppliers, families can also contact their supplier to arrange to pay over a longer period. The Moneysaving Expert website <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/> also has lots of advice for families.

Equipment and internet support:

We have requested more laptops from DfE and are awaiting a delivery. We are able, I believe, to ask for support regarding improving internet strengths for families at home and again please let me know if you would like me to apply for this on your behalf.

These companies include: Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile and Sky Mobile. The government address is: <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

Teams support:

Tomorrow morning, Tuesday 19th January, we will be holding a technical training session for any parents/carers who want to attend. Please contact Linda on the school email tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk for an invitation.

In school:

For children in school, DfE have suspended the delivery of milk for under 5s and fruit for Reception and KS1 children. Please can I ask that children bring a healthy snack from home if they are in for break time. Thank you.

Ventilation in school:

We have gathered further information from SAGE regarding ventilation and ways to managing air-flow in school. We are fully aware that with the temperatures outside at the moment, school can be chilly. As I have explained previously, children can wear extra layers, body warmers, gloves, hats and have a spare jumper with them if it helps them to stay warm. We are having extra active breaks during the day to keep us all moving too. The SAGE guidance explains that at times we can also close our windows to build up heat:

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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Opening windows (and sometimes doors as well) intermittently, for example for 10 minutes every hour, can be effective at reducing the risk from virus in the air. If this is combined with a break where occupants leave the room (e.g. in meeting rooms or class rooms) this is even more effective.

Remote learning:

Just to explain that it is best to upload your child's independent work into the assignment on Teams after they finish. Please do not worry about getting them to re-write their work or asking them to do more than they manage in the allocated time. Class teachers can then see how well a child has attempted the work and get a better awareness of their understanding. Saying this, we still expect children to present their work appropriately 😊.

Many thanks,



Tracey Hart
Headteacher

