



19th July 2021

Dear parents and carers of children having to isolate,

Thank you for your consideration on Friday and for coming quickly after receiving the text explaining that your child had been identified as a close contact to a positive case of Covid-19 at school. You should then have received a specific letter explaining the isolating information and also a second letter which went to all families to explain our situation. Everyone has worked so very hard all year to adhere to the restrictions and limits and we continue to thank you for this. Today, and until 11.59 pm on 25th July, 32 children and 5 teachers are having to isolate. We will of course be offering remote learning from this morning and the work will be uploaded by 8.45 am this morning. Some lessons will be interactive and others will be taped and uploaded or individual tasks that can be done away from the computer. There is also a whole-school celebration assembly at 2 pm, accessed on TEAMS in the usual way under the Assemblies button. Please can I ask you to check your child's TEAMS login and contact us on tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk if you need support to log in. Thank you.

When teaching remotely, we are expected to provide teaching that is equivalent in length to the core teaching that children would receive in school, and that this is a minimum of 3 hours for Reception and KS1 children and 4 hours for children in Years 3 to 6. Children from year 2, who are self-isolating will therefore have at least three lessons a day and year 6 will have 4 hours.

The tasks, as previously, will be a mixture of on-line, live and paper and pencil tasks too. Again, we ask you to contact us if you are having issues accessing the work on devices at home, as we can loan out equipment to support. For us, it is our responsibility to ensure that the work we upload is of value and will build on learning. The work at home is very similar to the work offered in school and it is important to access the tasks and lesson in order: mainly Monday to Wednesday, so that the children receive the progression they need. If a child misses a session say in Maths one day, then please complete this session before accessing the sessions the days after.

As in January, it is useful to have a routine each day, after accessing the timetable, and see what each child has to complete. This way, devices can be used efficiently and this should maintain children's attention. Any live lessons can be accessed later in the day as they will be recorded and uploaded. We are also providing a range of activities so that the screen time is reduced where possible.

Support and Expectations:

I have attached our remote learning information letter to parents and policy and to keep everyone safe we will go back to our key rules such as joining with the camera and microphone switched off and only staying on-line when the teacher is present.

To engage with the children, we will operate a check-in system whereby we will telephone any families who request support or who we have noticed may need help. Children will also receive feedback on assignment work and may be asked to comment on the task to explain that they had completed the work. We ask that work uploaded to an assignment is the work requested. Thank you. It would also be useful to let us know if you are unable to upload work. The initial problems of not hearing sound or unable to upload work if using a laptop have, I believe been solved. If not, please telephone for instructions.

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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Uploading work:

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 😊.

Technical support:

We will be preparing our laptops again Monday morning for any children who may need to borrow one to access Homelearning. Please send an email to the office or telephone Mrs Kellaway if you need hardware.

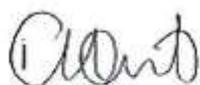
Keeping in contact:

Each morning we contact families who have asked us questions or to check-in with those learning at home. We are aware that MS Teams gives a comment function and we answer questions this way too. Please let us know if you would like to speak to a member of school staff or if you have any questions. The Homelearning email is also still available: homelearning.sch331@educ.somerset.gov.uk

The challenges of our present situation is once again vast; we fully appreciate everything you are doing at home. I am aware that many of us are 'spinning plates' at the moment with changes due to isolation, additional family pressures and many of you having to work from home or away from work to support your child's isolation. Please drop other siblings to the front of school at 9 am if it helps and collect them at 3 pm too.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries or questions.

Kind regards



Tracey Hart
Headteacher

