



Wood End Primary School

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Working together today
for a brighter tomorrow

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Update – February 2021

Dear parents/carers

As you are aware, there have been some positive cases of COVID 19 amongst staff, children and families. In some of these cases, those affected have been asymptomatic, but in others, they have been quite unwell. Unfortunately, there are several members of our school community who have lost somebody in their extended families or amongst friends or who have had to watch loved ones be very unwell. There are also members of our school community who are working in roles that are incredibly challenging. Whatever your circumstances are, we hope that you will continue to stay well, and although the school site is closed for the majority of children, please remember we do have a dedicated team of staff who are available to listen and support where needed.

In the past four weeks we have found that learning from home is a varied experience. For some it is an opportunity to share experiences which would not have been possible in 'normal' circumstance, for others it is a frustrating puzzle in which working from home and supporting learning have to be balanced, and then there is the task of trying to learn alongside the children in a way that some of you haven't learnt before. All that we can say for whatever you are doing and however you are doing it – thank you.

Remote learning provision, is a way to help your children to continue with a mind-set of learning. To support them, so that when they return, education structures do not become overwhelming. The following are some of the questions / challenges that have been experienced by some parents;

Query / challenge	Our advice
There is a lot of work – we can't do it all.	The amount of work set is in line with government guidelines. The pitch of the learning is set according to what your child's teacher knows about your child's ability. However, each child's circumstances are different and you may not be able to do all of the work every day, but we ask that something is completed everyday so that at least half of the work is done.
There is not enough work.	The amount of work set is in line with government guidelines. We use the children who are in school as a guide of how much work can be completed in a morning. There is also an additional bank of supplementary work, which can be used if you want.

<p>The work is too difficult and I don't know how to help.</p>	<p>The pitch of the learning is set according to what your child's teacher knows about your child's ability. Children will rarely get everything correct. Please support your child with access and give them some guidance if you need, but in the most part please let them complete the work independently in their own way. This lets the teacher know which areas your child is strong in and in which they need further support. Encourage them to 'have a go'. In school we encourage the children to be independent too – so this will not be new to them.</p>
<p>The work is too easy.</p>	<p>All of the work provided is planned and prepared by teachers to follow the curriculum as closely as possible. The work is planned to be developmental and allow for challenge. When the work is completed and handed in, it is checked by teachers to understand what the next steps are for your child.</p>
<p>How will we know how my child is getting on?</p>	<p>The work which is submitted via TEAMS is marked and returned daily. Emails are also checked when received. Please go back to work and look at the feedback that has been given by teacher. Work is generally marked as... green if correct, yellow if correct but requires more detail or explanation, red if incorrect.</p> <p>Your child's class teacher will also attempt to call once per week preferably by TEAMS or by phone if necessary. This will be an opportunity to go either through any misconceptions your child has or as an opportunity for new learning. In some circumstances when children have done work quickly, it is because it is not to the standard or without the detail that would be expected of them. If your child does not submit any work or little work we will send you a text message.</p>
<p>Why are there not any live lessons?</p>	<p>The number of children who can access live lessons are limited for various reasons. This is why we have chosen to provide short video clips or steps to success with learning instead. These can be used at a time that is convenient to you. They can also be referred back to repeatedly.</p>
<p>My child is struggling to work and concentrate.</p>	<p>You will know your child well and will adjust to suit them. We would advise creating a timetable of what will be done when. This will be similar to school expectations and help to keep your child in a routine and help them to know what to expect from a given day. Some children need learning tasks to be broken into smaller chunks and broken up with practical tasks. Others will want to have sustained time. Work with whatever system suits your child and also supports your home working routine.</p>

My child finds it hard to understand some concepts on the computer.	Please let us know this and we will attempt to provide practical resources to support understanding. We have already done this for many children.
I find it hard to use the computer for learning myself.	Please let us know this. If you could let us know by Wednesday 3 rd February we can possibly provide some support for you through the adult learning college.

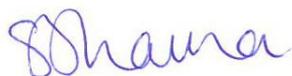
Support staff have also been allocated lists of children to hear read by phone. If a time has been arranged – please answer. If you do not want these calls please let us know, we can then use this time for somebody else.

If you are finding learning at home difficult, please do not worry you are not on your own. We are experiencing challenges on the provision side too (sometimes 3 minute videos that we spend a long time preparing don't work, sometimes staff have to isolate). Just give things a go and contact us if you want to check anything. We will always try to help as best we can.

There are a lot of things covered in this letter, we hope you find it useful in some way. If you do have any concerns about learning, including if you or your child are unwell and cannot complete learning for a few days, please let us know.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Miss S Sharma
Headteacher