



Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents

At the end of this first school week of a new national lockdown I would like to thank you for your ongoing understanding and support. Those children who have been in school have completed the same tasks that those children at home have. In order for this to continue I have outlined below how this will work. I know from previous lockdowns how hard parents find it to juggle their own work with home schooling especially if they have limited resources, intermittent internet connectivity and have children in different classes.

To help mitigate these challenges teachers will upload a video of themselves on Youtube at the beginning of the week. This will be a pre-recorded video outlining the lessons and expectations of the week ahead meaning that you can then plan when you can help your child complete the tasks. This video is not live intentionally. This is so you can re-visit it as many times as you need to over the course of the week. An email with the Youtube link will be sent to you at the beginning of the week. The work that all the children will complete is taken from our online curriculum and will include maths activities from White Rose Maths, English activities from Oak Academy, Twinkl and Literacy Shed and non-core activities from Oak Academy.

You will also receive an invitation to a mid-week zoom meeting from your child's class teacher. These will be at set times taking into account the fact that parents may have children in different classes so that you can plan your day. This is for the children's benefit so they can see their teacher and talk to them about the work that they are doing. It is not intended for parents to use these meetings as an opportunity to ask questions - please continue to email teachers if you have any questions regarding the work that has been set. Teachers will use these zoom meetings to interact with all the children both at home and in the classroom. There will also be another Zoom meeting for the children on Fridays, when the children can share the work they have completed or have a general catch up with their classmates.

Reception and Year 1 - 11.45am (Wed and Fri)

Year 2 and Year 3 - 1.30pm (Wed and Fri)

Year 4, 5 and 6 - 2.40pm (Wed and Fri)

I will also send out a pre-recorded assembly on **Fridays**. This will also be downloadable from Youtube so that your children can watch it when it is convenient to you.

Next week we will re-institute our Reading Book exchange system and teachers will advise you via email how this will work for their individual classes/year groups.

As we are having to keep our windows in school open to provide adequate ventilation and a free-flow of air. Please make sure your children come suitably dressed. They need to wear their school jumpers still but if you would like them to wear warmer tracksuit bottoms this would be really helpful as, when the opportunities arise, they will also take part in some physical activities. Thank you.

As you know, this is a particularly difficult and dangerous time for the country as the NHS faces a real crisis. We have been asked by the government to continue to provide educational provision in school for vulnerable children, children of

critical workers and children of pre-school age. At the same time, we are focusing on making sure the quality of remote education for the children who are at home is as good as it can be. We have a limited capacity in our schools; if we are to continue to operate as safely as we can, please only make use of the provision if you absolutely need it. If we have too many requests for places we will have to introduce limited or part-time provision. Please see the attached list of people whose roles are classed as critical and if your role does not appear on that list then you **must** keep your child at home with you. If you are a part time critical worker, then you **should consider** keeping your child at home with you on the days when you are not at work. This is for the safety of all of us because **the safest place for you and your child is at home.**

Critical workers

Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required.

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and national government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- the coronavirus (COVID-19) response, and the delivery of and response to EU transition
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits and the certification or checking of goods for import and export (including animal products, animals, plants and food), including in government agencies and arms length bodies

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and EU transition)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national security roles, including those overseas

Transport and border

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and EU transition, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass and those constructing or supporting the operation of critical transport and border infrastructure through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during the coronavirus (COVID-19) response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

If you send your child to school and your work is not included within the list above you will be contacted and asked to collect your child. This is not an unreasonable request given the very serious situation we are in. This is so that we can keep all the children and staff who need to be in school safe.

Yours sincerely

N.P.Coates

