



## Remote Learning Update Letter | 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you following my communication to you last night regarding the government COVID announcement that primary schools are to close to all children apart from children who are considered to be vulnerable or children whose parents are critical workers.

There had been media speculation about this possibility beforehand, but I know that the announcement gave us all very short notice and will be upsetting to our children and cause difficulties for parents/carers regarding childcare and work commitments.

As I stated last night, as of tomorrow, apart from children who are considered to be vulnerable or children whose parents are critical workers, our teachers will be providing education remotely. Meetings have been held this morning and we have organised learning to be taught via the online 'Seesaw' platform, as we did in the previous lockdown. The platform is ready to go and teachers today have, and are preparing lessons to be delivered online. Each teacher will be sending individual letters to explain what this will look like in their year group following this letter.

During our meeting, we discussed our concern about needing to move to online learning, bearing in mind their loss of education during the previous lockdown and how hard we and they have all worked since then in trying to 'catch up' with their education.

We strongly feel that during this period of remote learning, we need to ensure that not only the children continue with their education, but they also continue to make good progress with their



learning. We know that as parents/carers you will agree with this and to this end our expectations for children completing work will be higher during this school closure, with teachers setting Literacy, Maths and Science work each day as well as PSHE, Art and PE challenges (We have decided to postpone the C360 curriculum delivery for the time being in order to give teachers more time to adapt resources to remote learning, but be rest assured, it is on its way!) We are sure that you will all agree with this approach.

We all have a collective responsibility in ensuring the continued progress of the children's learning, however we do understand that home teaching can be challenging for many reasons. In order to support you, both teachers and TAs will be visible on 'Seesaw' and you will receive regular telephone calls to support you and the children further. Regular newsletters will also continue.

We also welcome the introduction of the new Social Inclusion Team next week. You may recall, this comprises two inclusion officers, both of whom have extensive experience and are looking forward to working with the trust. They will be available at each MAT school for one day each week and will be here at Bampton to support families and teachers. They will also be able to signpost you to other agencies who can support you. A further letter will follow introducing both Mr. James Creek and Mrs. Sonia Grant, giving their contact details and informing you how they can offer support during lock down.

I know that after a difficult and challenging 2020 with COVID, this latest announcement will cause further disruption to families. However, with COVID cases at a record high and a new variant of the virus spreading at a faster rate, the new plans will continue to help keep our community safe, which is a top priority for everyone.

Take care,

Mr Bladon  
Headteacher