



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Home learning:

I wanted to write to say a massive well done and thank you. 77% of children in Years 1-6 have accessed the live teaching this week which is a great start. We have appreciated everyone's patience and perseverance in getting their head around Google Classroom and in particular the element of submitting work.

This lockdown is quite different to the previous one in March as the Government have made it very clear that primary aged children should be doing at least 3 hours of home learning, so our provision is a blended approach of live teaching and independent learning tasks. This is to ensure that children do not regress in their learning and continue to develop and thrive. Children must be submitting their completed work as evidence that they have done it. We are obliged to mark it and will use it to inform planning of lessons the following day/week.

If families are struggling to submit work electronically, please refer to either the user guide which has been emailed out this week or watch the step-by-step video which has been uploaded onto the class blogs.

For children to be ready and alert for their lessons, please ensure you are keeping a good routine going at home; making sure the children go to bed at a reasonable time as they would if they were in school. When we have rang some homes this week, we have woken people up at gone 10am.

Everyone in our school community is working incredibly hard, juggling work and home lives, but it is also important that I protect my teacher's well-being, so teachers will not be responding to comments or questions on the class blogs after 4pm as they are then either planning, in meetings or being parents themselves! They will pick up any questions the following morning if there is time before the live lessons, if not it will be in the afternoon between 12-4pm. On that note, you may want to tell your children that *all posts* come directly through to me on the class blogs, so I can see who is on the Google Classroom at 11pm at night! Please ensure they are off their devices at an appropriate time.

Vulnerable families:

For families we have contacted who are defined as vulnerable, the children need to either be in school or completing all of the work set by the school at home. Doing nothing is not an option. Under safeguarding practices, we will carry out home visits to any families we cannot make contact with, either via the telephone or by seeing them on the live lessons.

Free School Meals:

Hopefully all the families in receipt of Free School Meals will have received their e-voucher today. Please let us know if you experience any problems.

Technology:

We have already loaned approximately 25 devices to families who are struggling with access to technology. Please contact us if we can help at all. We haven't got an endless supply, so of course, we need to prioritise requests. I think with so many people working online now everyone's Wi-Fi is certainly being tested, ours included, so please bear with us if sometimes there are glitches.

Critical workers:

Please remember to let the office know by Wednesday lunch time if your booking has changed at all for the following week. **Again, I need to stress, that this provision is only if no other childcare can safely be organised as the risk associated with coming into school and mixing with others remains high.** Lots of other schools have now stopped any new requests for bookings as their childcare bubbles have become too big and the ability to staff the provision unmanageable. I would hate to be in this position, so please do not use us unless it is essential. If your child is booked on for a session and is unwell or unable to attend, please ensure you telephone the absence line in the usual way.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or queries.

Keep safe

Mrs Sarah Horbury-Jakeman
Head Teacher