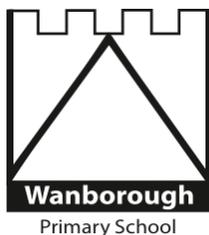


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8th January 2021

Dear Parents

Just a quick Friday update, covering a few matters which have arisen. Firstly, please contact your Teacher if you are unable to access the One Drive and/or Teams as staff will be recording daily the engagement/attendance they are experiencing in line with the expectations of remote learning which were updated yesterday. Some key points have been copied below.

‘Schools should have systems for checking, daily, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and work with families to rapidly identify effective solutions where engagement is a concern.’

‘When teaching pupils remotely, we expect schools to:

- **set meaningful and ambitious work each day in an appropriate range of subjects**
- **teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally**
- **provide teaching that is equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school. This will include both recorded or live direct teaching time and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently, and will be as a minimum:**
- **Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day on average across the cohort, with less for younger children**
- **Key Stage 2: 4 hours a day’**

Online video lessons do not necessarily need to be recorded by teaching staff at the school: Oak National Academy, White Rose, Pre-recorded or voiced over power points for example, can be provided in lieu of school-led video content.

We intend to have at least two sessions a day which can be described as online/live teaching when a Class Teacher is not scheduled to be in school. Occasionally, there may be more or less depending on the curriculum needs for that day. When Teachers are in school supervising children this style of teaching will be occurring at least once a day. Again, there may be more depending on the work for the day and the availability of staff being able to respond. May I remind you in the event of staff absence, Teachers will be required to attend school to cover colleagues.



Secondly, trying to satisfy the following criteria is a difficult problem which every school across the country is trying to solve:

- a. Staff endeavouring to meet and exceed the expectations of delivering high quality remote education.
- b. The government encouraging everybody to stay at home if they can to limit the spread of the virus.
- c. Teachers having to be in the building for at least 2 days in our school, to supervise safely the numbers of children in school who meet the current criteria for attending.

As a result, we will continue to review our provision on a daily basis, looking to make improvements and adjustments where necessary, within the challenges we are facing.

Regarding key worker places, any new applicant for a Year 2 - 4 or 5/6 place may likely require the child to physically join the Reception/Year 1 bubble. I have contacted SBC and will be lobbying our MP to adopt the line some other Local Authorities (albeit against government guidance) are beginning to adopt, where both parents/single parent need to be a key worker.

Thirdly, Teachers are currently not getting their normal PPA or Leadership time. To help with this we are intending to make Friday afternoons a lighter touch to allow staff a couple of hours to plan for the week ahead. At this time children and parents should not expect any communication from the Teacher. For Miss Brant, Miss Watts and Miss Corbyn this will be on a Thursday afternoon. Mrs Wright will be 11.00am – 12.00pm on a Friday.

Remember to send me through any news or pictures that will help keep everyone’s spirits up! Here is a fantastic piece of artwork Lucas in Year 6 did following an online painting lesson. Go to <https://thepaintrepublic.com/> for more information.



Finally, please spend some time this weekend taking a look at the school website which has a Home Learning section for extra resources, links for wellbeing in the Erasmus+ tab and a Safeguarding section with useful websites too. I hope everyone manages to have a restful weekend, wouldn't playing in some snow be nice?

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Drury

Andy Drury
Headteacher

PS. I hope the children have received my weekly message on Teams – for the future I've given the teachers freedom to use their creative powers to turn me into a squirrel or fairy godmother etc. if they and the children want some extra entertainment!

