



Verwood CofE First School

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12th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

On Friday we received the Government guidance 'Restricting attendance during the national lockdown'. We have followed all guidance and have accepted critical workers and vulnerable children into school. However, the numbers of children we have in school is high.

The guidance states 'Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.' Therefore, in line with the guidance, I would ask that if you have requested a place as a critical worker parent but do have a member of the family at home that can assist with home learning to reconsider keeping your child at home.

Please contact the school office if you are able to reconsider your position.

Through discussion with all senior leaders in our organisation it has been agreed that where a place is offered to any pupil, this is on a full time basis.

The continuity of education for all and for those who are children of critical workers is vital. We believe it is important for their education to be in school full time, as although the education replicates that provided online, it is not necessarily done in the same timeframe.

If this causes unnecessary complications for a family of a critical worker or creates an additional vulnerability for any child, please contact the Headteacher at your child's school to discuss your individual circumstances.

Remote learning and live lessons

Many thanks to those of you who have contacted school to share your appreciation for our efforts with Google Classroom. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you as parents for supporting and enabling our children to engage with online learning (no easy feat by any means).

From Wednesday this week (tomorrow), we are asking for children in Reception to Year 4, to join google meets live morning registration, registration times are listed below. We have staggered these to enable as many siblings as possible to join, for those children who are sharing a device.

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Please sign in if you can, we fully appreciate that not all children will be able to attend due to sharing technology and other constraints. There is going to be some teething issues for some and we will work with you to resolve these.

We ask, if you have not been able to log in for live registration that you continue to sign in on the Google Classroom Stream as you have been doing. We welcome your feedback so we can address problems as they occur. Codes will be posted on your child's Google Classroom Stream and for our Reception classes, these will also be posted on Tapestry.

To enter the Google Meets Registration, please click on the link posted to the class Stream and you will be taken straight through to the meeting, if the teacher has started the meeting, children will be taken straight through. If, however, the teacher has not started the meeting, children will be admitted once the teacher joins. To enable the teacher to be heard by all children, please can we ask that children mute when they enter the meeting, teachers can then ask children to unmute respectively. Please can all children leave the meeting promptly when the session ends, teachers will end the session for any children remaining in the meeting after registration has finished. We will only be doing morning registrations to start and then will increase to add an afternoon registration in the near future.

We are required to record any live Google Meets for safeguarding purposes, this is to ensure the safety of pupils, parents and staff online, should an incident occur.

Registration times:

Year 4	9.00am
Year 3	9.10am
Year 2	9.20am
Year 1	9.30am
Reception	9.40am

In addition to the live registrations, starting this Friday, we will introduce live story time (day may vary each week and not necessarily a Friday), which will be split into two sessions, one session for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and the second session for Year 3 and Year 4. These two separate sessions will also be staggered to enable siblings to attend if using shared devices. Timings for these will be confirmed together with Google Meets links, which again will be posted on the Google



Classroom Stream. The recordings of these will be posted in Google Classroom for those children who were not able to attend the live sessions.

We will also be introducing Friday morning Praise Worship and Reflection Friday sessions from next week. These reflection sessions will give children working from home the chance to interact with the children that are in school. Further information on these to follow.

Please could you refer to the Remote Learning policy for a full list of expectations, however could we please highlight the following points:

Children should:

- have their cameras on unless, they are exempt for safeguarding reasons
- be in a supervised public area of the house (not the child's bedroom)
- be appropriately dressed
- not take videos, photos or screenshots while in a live streaming session
- let the member of staff leading the session or an adult at home know if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable
- be ready for their sessions and log in at the correct time.
- be polite and respectful at all times

Please ensure you share these expectations of live stream learning with your children and that they are adhered to. Should you have any concerns or issues of a safeguarding nature, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Adam Parsons
Head Teacher