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*Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership*

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Wednesday 6th January 2021

### Arrangements for January 2021 Lockdown

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you all for your continued support throughout this unprecedented time. We thought it would be helpful to clarify / expand on a few frequently asked questions around arrangements for this term.

#### Expectations for learning

Each class teacher will communicate directly with parents regarding the schedule for learning each day (including live sessions), and expectations on amount and quality of work expected. This may be communicated in a google meet, or via the class page on our school website.

There will be 2 live teaching sessions per day for each class (a staggered schedule across the school to avoid sibling clashes), alongside a google meet in the morning and afternoon to ask any questions etc. Try and make the live sessions if you can, as this is where teachers will model the learning and be available for Q and A sessions with the children (and parents). In these sessions, we ask that microphones are muted. We will be teaching children to use the 'raise the hand' function, before speaking.

Please refer to the safety advice in our remote learning guidelines, specifically:

- be aware of the backgrounds used on live sessions
- ensure your child has correctly logged out of the google meet session

It is a mandatory requirement for all children to complete remote learning, therefore the teachers main role is to plan, deliver and review teaching and learning remotely. As you can imagine, this is both technically challenging and time consuming. Teachers cannot be expected to teach children in school alongside providing remote learning. Learning Support Assistants and teaching students are doing an excellent job in helping children who are in school to access remote learning effectively.

With this in mind, teachers do not have spare hours within the school day to provide detailed feedback to every piece of work submitted or respond to every email. Please be reassured that all work submitted is being valued and reviewed, and any specific feedback will be shared either via the google meets or directly through the live teaching sessions. A reminder here, that it is very helpful if work is submitted by the end of each day to allow any changes to plan or feedback to be given.

#### Communication with teaching staff

In line with the school's communication protocol, please be mindful of the extra work school staff currently have and additional pressure that runs alongside this. Whilst we recognise and



appreciate the value of home school partnership, it is important that we maintain protocols in place. Please be mindful of the times / days you send emails to teachers and be aware that I have instructed teachers not to answer emails outside of working hours.

The safety of our whole community is our priority, this includes teacher well being.

### School Meals

For children in school, there will be no school meals offered except for children eligible to a free school meal - NOT universal infant free school meals for all reception, year1 and year 2 children.

### Free School Meal Children:

Free school meal children in school will automatically receive a hot meal.

Free school meal children not in school, please pick up a meal box from school for Thursday and Friday this week. We'll send a notification when this is available.

Details of a voucher scheme will be confirmed as soon as we know any information.

### Key worker places in school

Following on from my email 5th January 2021, we are only able to safely accommodate a limited number of vulnerable and keyworker children in each class bubble and provide remote learning support for children at home. We will review attendance and be in contact if more spaces come up.

Thank you for your support and please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards



Liz Ennew (Headteacher)

