

HOWBRIDGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mrs L Dale B.Ed (Hons)



11th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Remote Learning

I am writing with further information and some clarification around remote learning and our school offer in this area.

As many of you will know, we had Google Classroom set up at the very beginning of the first national lockdown in March 2020. Huge thanks go to Mr Eaves for his work continuously since then to develop our online learning provision as well as to the teachers for their hard work learning a new system and approach to learning. Members of staff have, throughout each lockdown juggled remote learning, being in school teaching children on site and supporting their own children's learning. Therefore, your patience and understanding of their efforts is greatly appreciated.

Remote Learning Offer

Attached to this email and on the school website is a document detailing what we are offering as a school during the period of 'closure'. Please do have a look at it as it may answer some of your questions.

Devices for Access to Remote Learning

The Department for Education have begun a roll-out of their scheme designed to provide IT devices to pupils who do not have iPads or laptops at home. We have been sent a limited supply of laptops and are working our way through the survey we asked you to complete during the autumn term.

The laptops are being set up, along with the various documentation that we have to write to accompany these laptops. The laptops remain the property of the school and are to be returned as soon as school opens for all pupils.

Please be patient with us, as not only do the laptops need setting up so they can be used by our pupils, and paperwork needs to be drawn up, for some families, where there is no internet access at all, we also have to apply to the Department for Education for provision of wi-fi. We do not yet know how long this takes.

Access to remote learning via games consoles

Children are able to use an Xbox or Playstation games console instead of a laptop or tablet to access online schooling such as MS Teams or Google Classroom.

You can do this on the following devices:

Xbox One, Xbox Series S, Xbox Series X, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 4 Pro or PlayStation 5

You will just need a USB Keyboard to plug into that device to enable this function. It just needs to be a working USB keyboard.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.pocket-lint.com/apps/news/google/155204-how-to-use-google-classroom-on-xbox-and-playstation>

Paper Copies of Work

Due to the fact that we are providing laptops or school places for certain pupils or groups of pupils, we are unable to provide paper copies of work. There are a number of other reasons for this, such as staff

not being on site to get packs together, staff do not have time to create packs of work as well as teach in classrooms and teach remotely.

Timetable

A timetable for remote learning has been posted on Google Classroom.

The timetable for the day and tasks set will mirror as much as we can, what is happening for those children in school.

Live Registration

The live registration seems to be working well. The idea of this is so that the children can have daily contact with their teacher and peers and the teacher can give a brief outline of the tasks for the day and answer general questions that are work related.

Please note, this session is not about marking a register as we do when they are in school. Therefore, if your child cannot make the registration every day, please don't worry.

Thank you for the positive feedback we have already had about this session.

Monitoring Google Classroom

We have many members of staff working hard to monitor exactly what is happening on Google Classroom and provide feedback and support. If your child does not engage with their online learning during any given week, these members of staff are instructed to give you a call to see whether you need further support.

Submitting work

There are a variety of ways you can upload or submit your work for feedback. This may not be needed for every piece of work however. The teachers will instruct you as to whether you need to submit work and how you might do that on Google Classroom.

See also 'Technical Help' below.

Online Safety

Staff are aware that children are vulnerable to being bullied or groomed for abuse or radicalisation online. Staff will be vigilant to any signs that that this may be occurring and we ask that you do the same and report any concerns to school via office.howbridge@dcvst.org

Particularly useful websites on the subject of online safety are:

- [CEOP](#) (Child Exploitation and Online Protection)
- [Childnet](#)
- [Internet Matters](#)
- [Net Aware](#)
- [NSPCC](#)
- [Parent Info](#)
- [Safer Internet](#)

Technical Support

Mr Eaves has created a section on the school website that is designed to give you more support with Google Classroom. Click the link below and go to the 'Home Learning COVID Closure' tab that appears on the banner.

<https://howbridgejunior.co.uk/>

If you continue to have technical issues, please contact:

office.howbridge@dcvst.org

Mr Eaves will create more help guides as soon as possible.

School Closure

May I take this opportunity to thank all Howbridge families for their patience and understanding at this time and reiterate Government and County guidance that, wherever possible all children of key workers should stay at home.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Dale
Headteacher

