



Dear parents, carers and families

After the announcements this week, I and the team have spoken to many of you so this is just a quick reminder about how we are approaching the next few weeks while the country goes into further restrictions.

The whole school remains open, but we are asking that where your child can work from home safely (and will do some work!) then to limit numbers in school, and therefore the risk of transmission, we ask you to keep them at home.

We have limited numbers of staff in school due to shielding or illness and we have had to limit the numbers of pupils on buses to comply with guidance. If we do get more pupils than our risk assessment allows, we may have to move to a rota in future.

Primary: We have contacted you today to see if your child can work from home. The national guidance has changed and all primary aged children are now expected to work remotely unless vulnerable. We appreciate that many children will need some face to face support but will possibly need to operate a rota system to ensure the safety of every child and member of staff. We will be in touch as we know more.

Secondary/ Arrow: From the numbers we have confirmed this week, we will be able to offer face to face support for all pupils who have been confirmed. To ensure minimal risk, we will continue with these bubbles for the next two weeks.

For this week, while we make sure all technical aspects are working, we will not offer any remote learning. If your child requires a physical 'pack' of work to complete then we are happy to provide this. I know some of you have limited internet and others work better offline. These will be ready by Friday, or if you have spoken to school staff about collecting on another date, that is fine. Please contact us if you want a physical pack.

**All pupils in secondary can access their full curriculum online using MS Teams from 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.** Arrow will continue to have access to physical packs of resources as well as some online platforms they can log into (like BKSb or Spelling Shed) for those working from home.

The work will be set by subject specialist teachers and will be their normal curriculum with occasional changes to facilitate online learning.

There will be links to Oak Academy, YouTube videos, other online resources, Math's and English sites which we buy into such as BKSb or Spelling Shed, quizzes and work to complete online (you do not have to print work, you can upload directly and upload photos/ videos as needed).

The form teacher will send out information around what to complete and all work set will have a week to be completed.

**Your child will be required to log on between 8.45 and 9.15 and then again at 12.30 and 1.00.**

**They can then complete work and upload it/ email photos for feedback from the teacher.**



**We will send your child's passwords and logins to you by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January.**

We ask that all passwords remain the same as we have had issues with children not remembering them and then it is difficult to reset and work can get lost.

Today the Education Secretary confirmed that **SATS and GCSEs are not being held this summer**. As soon as I know more, then I will let affected students and families know but we believe it will be based on teacher's predicted grades.

The DfE have also announced that we can request help to increase mobile data allowances for children who do not have fixed broadband at home or cannot afford additional data allowance and are working at home. We will be contacting you soon to talk to you about your individual circumstances if your child is accessing remote education.

All pupils in primary will be provided with work if they are working remotely. This may be physical or online using SeeSaw, dependent on need. We encourage all pupils and parents to use SeeSaw as it is a great tool for communication and to show us all the lovely things you are getting up to.

**As always, if your child is coming into school, please send them with a face covering, with clean uniform and to keep them at home if they have one of the symptoms of COVID 19.**

These are:

- a high temperature
- a consistent or new cough
- a change to/ loss of taste and/ or smell

If your child does show any of these symptoms we advise you to book a test immediately, or you can ask for one at school if you are unsure, and to self-isolate. We also ask that you let us know that your child is self-isolating.

Secondary aged pupils will have access to testing by Friday and consent forms are going out via letter/ email. Staff have already been tested and will continue to be tested so long as this is Government policy.

Thanks so much for your continued support. These are incredibly hard times for everyone but every day I hear about someone who has had the vaccine and that means there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We just need to keep working together so we can have some kind of normality soon. Please ring/ email me if you have any questions or concerns.

All my very best, stay safe and well

Michelle Parkes, Jill Hurst, Jan Greene and the whole team