Thursday 28th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I know this is an exceptionally difficult time for all of you and for your children at the moment. Home Learning, on the scale we have currently, is still relatively new to all children, parents and teachers. Staff are working hard to provide your children with a range of activities that follow the school curriculum are varied and engaging. We do have a duty to provide 3 hours of remote learning per day so your child receives their education entitlement. Please see the attached Remote Learning Provision: Information for Parents (This can also be found on our school website under: Key Info – Covid-19). *Please note: Nursery children do not have Home Learning due to their age and because the Government have offered them a place in school.*

I fully understand how difficult and stressful Home Learning is, especially if you are having to work as well. In light of the Government announcement yesterday we know this situation will go on for longer than we had initially hoped (at least until the 8th March) and sadly Home Learning for many families may not get any easier.

It may be that some children will find it harder to maintain their interest and motivation. If you are finding it difficult please phone school and we will support you however we can. **Unfortunately what we cannot do is provide your child with a place in school because he/she is beginning to lose interest or starting to lack motivation in their Home Learning.**

**We can however work with you and offer to help whenever we can.**

Some suggestions are:

* To phone school and arrange for your child’s class teacher to talk to your child in an attempt to motivate and engage them in their Home Learning.
* Arrange to bring your child to the main reception area so their class teacher can talk to them face to face in order to motivate and engage them in their Home Learning.
* Loan a Chromebook from school if managing to provide a suitable device is an issue.
* You can request a paper pack of activities if you think your child would prefer to work on paper. This can be collected each Monday from the office and returned for marking the following Monday.
* Focus on completing just the key skill subjects such as Phonics, Reading, Writing and Maths.
* Although a timetable has been provided, this does not need to be adhered to, you can choose the best times of day for your child to complete their activities.

Initially the key worker places provided for children in school were full time places, however due to the ongoing severity of the Covid-19 pandemic and in an attempt to keep the number of children in school as low as possible we are asking the following:

* Places in school are only available to children of key workers on days when there is no one at home to look after them or you have no one in your support bubble to look after them.
* If you are working from home you may be able to keep your child at home with you.
* If you work part-time your child must only attend school on the days you are working.

As you are aware the Covid-19 pandemic is still a huge concern and we must try to keep our numbers in school as low as possible for the safety of everyone. If your child is currently in school and you are able to reduce the number of days they attend please phone the school office on 344649.

I am continually trying to find the balance between offering places to those children that absolutely need to be here (for what may be a variety of reasons) and making sure all children are still receiving their education entitlement at home.

Please work with us, telephone or email me to share your thoughts/concerns and together we can do our best for our community and for our children.

Best Wishes

Angela Clark

Head of School

