



## BURWELL VILLAGE COLLEGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of you who have already voiced your support and appreciation for the staff and what they have developed for remote learning and in school provision. It is very much appreciated by all of us at school. We also recognise how difficult another period of lockdown is for you as parents trying to juggle home-schooling and your own work.

We have put together a comprehensive remote-learning package to operate alongside the face-to-face teaching for critical workers and pupils identified as vulnerable. Before I outline what we are able to offer, I would like to impress upon you how difficult this is for staff. In essence what I am asking staff to provide is two separate teaching experiences at the same time. This requires significantly more planning input from each teacher. It is also a very different way of teaching and it takes time and practice to get used to, particularly knowing that not only are children involved but often their parents as well (especially where younger children are involved). I would ask that you support the school and the staff and that if there are concerns these come directly to me so that I can address them appropriately. Teachers need your support to be able to provide the best experience for children who are working remotely whilst also providing a quality education for those in school.

It is important to note that children are expected to attend lessons and engage with content as much as possible. We recognise that there are some barriers for children and that you will be doing as much as possible to support them. Please also be aware that, particularly for older children, we need to be encouraging them to ask questions and clarify their understanding as we would in the classroom. Where you can please encourage children to ask for themselves if they are unsure or need a bit more support rather than doing it for them.

### Remote and face-to-face learning

Children working at home and in school will receive a similar teaching experience and a similar level of work. Teachers will put together a clear timetable which closely resembles the work they would have completed at school. The timetable will indicate:

- opportunities for remote learners to access live teaching.
- where there is learning material posted on Google Classroom. This could be in the form of videos to watch, activities to complete and/or worksheets to access.
- targeted teaching time for all pupils in school and at home, enabling remote learners to work with the peers in school and for all children to have access to direct teaching in smaller groups.
- occasions where there is no work posted for certain sessions. Children can access the various websites, prior learning or repeat activities that have been previously posted.

Remote learners will be invited to join live teaching and targeted group teaching via Google Classroom assignments. All work will be available on Google Classroom and should be submitted on Google Classroom (Reception should continue to use Tapestry as they have done).



*Burwell Village College Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*

The timetable will be posted ready for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

If you feel you would like additional work please practise basic skills e.g. reading, word recognition, spelling, times tables and number bonds etc. Children can write stories, leaflets, diaries to continue to practise their handwriting skills.

They can also access lots of online resources using simple google searches. If they search for the subject and their year group there are a lot of resources and activities available. The BBC will also be providing a menu of teaching content on free to view TV for children to access.

### **Marking and feedback**

- Teachers will be marking and feeding back on work posted on Google Classroom. This will be in line with our school marking policy. All work posted will be acknowledged. Teachers will set a deadline please try your best to adhere to these. If work needs to be submitted later than the deadline please be aware that teachers will not respond to it for perhaps a few days.
- Any work sent through other platforms will not be responded to as monitoring multiple platforms will detract from teaching, learning and planning time.

### **Contact**

- Teachers will post specific learning messages on Google classroom. They may utilise Dojo to send some generic class messages. If you need to contact teachers please email via the office. This enables us to ensure you get a response within an appropriate timeframe without impacting too much on the quality of provision in the classroom.
- If your child is struggling with the content on a particular day, please encourage them to ask questions themselves. For younger pupils, if you are supporting them please ask questions for them initially but again please remember that teachers are trying to respond to all the children in their classes as well as to parents supporting and you therefore may not get an immediate response.
- Please use the chat function on Google Classroom as much as possible with regard to misconceptions or content misunderstandings so that teachers can monitor any recurring or individual questions and teaching inputs are not interrupted or disrupted.
- Please do not use Dojo to message teachers as you will not get a response.
- Please do not use Google Classroom for general queries as teachers will not be able to respond to these.

Along with this explanation we have reissued the remote-learning guidance and expectations. Please take the time to read through these.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. Again, I would like to say how privileged I feel to work with the staff at this school. They are incredibly dedicated and continue to do all they can to provide a quality education for the children in their care.

Regards,



Antony Kern  
Headteacher