



Waverton Community Primary School

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“Learning together. Achieving together.”

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. It is probably an understatement to say it has been a difficult start to the year and many of you have an awful lot to deal with.

I want to thank you for your patience and support with your children’s remote learning. I know it’s not easy to juggle this at the same time as working full time or working from home and looking after younger children and worrying about family members. The list goes on. You are all doing what you can to support your children under very difficult individual circumstances and the staff are working very hard to provide consistent learning online.

Don’t be too hard on yourselves if children can’t login to live sessions or are unable to complete the work set on time. I know the timings can’t possibly suit everyone’s individual circumstances. You will make the right decisions for your children, yourself and the family. If you think your children need a break from the screen even if a live lesson is coming up, then that will be the best decision for you and the children. The materials from the session will still be accessible when you return. If you are experiencing any particular issues around engagement or if you are struggling with access to devices or the internet, please contact us – we can and will help you.

The timetable for live sessions is set out below, with a couple of changes highlighted:

Reception	10:00am		1:20pm
Year 1	9:05am		12:50pm
Year 2	9:10am	10:45am	1:00pm
Year 3	9:05am	10:50am	1:15pm
Year 4	9:25am	11:00am	1:30pm
Year 5	9:10am	11:00am	1:15pm
Year 6	9:00am	10:30am	1:00pm

The teachers will send reminders on their Google Classroom and Seesaw pages. We will send out a short survey next week on remote learning which we will be grateful if you can return.

We are currently dealing with staff absence as well as far more children coming into school than the first lockdown. We still have the appropriate controls in place to help ensure school is as safe as possible, but if you can keep your child at home, even if you have a critical worker place, you should still do so. The levels of virus are still very high in the local community. Staff are trying to deliver on-line work while having, in some cases, up to 40 % of the class in front of them – this is not sustainable. As I mentioned last week, we are not able to take any children beyond those deemed as vulnerable or the children of critical workers. If, and hopefully when, the guidance changes I will let you know.

I sincerely hope and expect that primary schools will be the first schools to fully open. I know we are due to receive the first batch of lateral flow tests for staff by the end of next week, but I can only speculate whether or not they will help us fully return sooner rather than later.

Just moving between the classes and hearing the children when they first switch online, chatting to one another and their teachers is really heart-warming. The children and staff seeing each other every day, even if it's remotely, is really important in helping everyone to still feel part of the school community.

Thank you once more for your many messages of support. They really do make a difference to staff. Have a good weekend and I will write to you again soon.

Yours sincerely,

SJ Talbot

Mr S Talbot
Head Teacher