



Dean Bank Primary and Nursery School

Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

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Head Teacher: Mrs P Northcott
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Chair of Governors: Mr D Regan

Good Afternoon,

It's been a really difficult couple of days and I really appreciate your understanding in this fast moving situation. We have planned for remote learning and want to make our expectations very clear.

Vulnerable Children

Vulnerable children ~ We have contacted all our vulnerable families and the majority of families are happy that children attend school. It is vital that these children attend to ensure we give them the necessary support. If your child is in this category and you are still concerned about them coming to school please contact me for a chat and a little reassurance.

If your child is coming into school then they will be enter the front door at 9:00 and can be collected at 3:00.

Critical Worker Children

If both parents are classed as Critical Workers (See list below) then children can come into school on those days where parents are working. They should only come into school on days where child care is not available. Please collect a form from the office so we can ensure we have appropriate staffing levels as we are also being encouraged to work on a rota from home and have as few staff in school as possible.

A summary of Dept for Education 'critical roles'

Health and social care~ Frontline health and social care staff such as doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, as well as support and specialist staff in the health and social care sector. In addition it includes those working in supply chains including producers and distributors of medicines and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare ~ Nursery, teaching staff and social workers.

Key public services ~ Those required to run the justice system, religious staff, as well as those responsible for managing the deceased, and journalists providing public service broadcasting.

Local and national government ~ Administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response or delivering essential public services, including payment of benefits.

Food and other necessary goods~ Those involved in the production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery of food.

Public safety and national security~ Police, support staff, Ministry of Defence civilian staff and armed forces personnel, fire and rescue staff, and those responsible for border security, prisons and probation.

Transport~ Those who will keep air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response.

Utilities, communication and financial services~ Staff required to keep oil, gas, electricity, water and sewerage operations running. Staff in the civil nuclear, chemical and telecommunications sectors. Those in postal services and those working to provide essential financial services.

Online Learning

This is not like the first lockdown where home schooling was virtually optional. Now we have a legal obligation to ensure children are receiving the best education they can and are not just completing worksheets covering work they have already done. To this end, the Government expect us to be providing online videos of teaching points, games and activities. This means that we are not allowed to just produce work packs like the first lockdown unless there are specific reasons e.g. medical or SEND when children cannot use ICT.

If you DO NOT have access to Wi-Fi or just don't have a device to do so you MUST inform school so that we can arrange the loan of equipment if needed or make other appropriate arrangements.

Here is a little more information about what is expected over the next couple of weeks.

We believe that for children to have the highest quality learning experience during lockdown that they need to be accessing online resources. Each day, teachers will share a general timetable for children to follow and then share links to online videos, resources and information.

For maths, school will be using White Rose which means each day staff will share a link to a teaching video that will teach children about the topic for that day. They will then complete a worksheet (which will also be shared on dojo) that has been designed for that lesson – this can be completed in an exercise book which can be collected from the office, or on the paper copy available from school which can be collected at the beginning of the week from the office.

In English, staff will share links to online lessons or resources where the work can then be completed in an exercise book. We emphasise that for children to continue their learning from home this is the best way to do so.

For foundation subjects, staff will again share links and tasks via class dojo. This work can then be completed in exercise books.

We have a legal obligation to provide at least 3 hours of education each day and it is expected that this is completed and returned via a photo on class dojo. However, we do understand that some days may be a little manic and your children may not complete everything, just catch up the following day and let the class teacher know.

Teachers will be available throughout the day if you message via class dojo to support you as best as they can, and will also highlight a 2 hour window each day where they will be immediately available if you have other queries. They will also be making welfare calls on a regular basis.

We know you want the best for your children and can show this by uploading work to class dojos, communicating with staff and being understanding that this is a team effort and we'll do what we can to support you and your family. Teachers want this to be a far more positive experience than the last time and want education to be meaningful, not just going over things children can already do. This will also mean that they can give feedback promptly to your children and move on their learning.

Kind Regards

Pauline Northcott
All the staff at Dean Bank