



Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust THE WHITE HORSE FEDERATION

Newsletter | 16

15th January 2021



Home Learning

Now we have completed the first full week of remote learning we have listened to feedback from parents, teachers and (most importantly) children about how things are going. Thank you for all of your very positive comments on the work the teachers and TAs are doing.

From feedback, so far we have made the following changes:

- Lessons to run until only 2pm (12 noon on Fridays)
- Weekly PE sessions with Mr Spencer
- More time away from screens
- Extra help for children who found a task tricky

A few expectations

- Children should be online every day
- Children must be appropriately dressed
- Children must not be online unless the teacher is present
- The 'chat' and 'emoji' tools should not be used by children unless asked to by the teacher!

What if I have problems logging on?

If Teams does not allow you to go past the first log-in screen, it is almost certain you have entered the login incorrectly. The school office can resend it to you if necessary. If you log-in and find your child is no longer in their class team, please contact the school office to be added back in.

What do I do if my child can't keep up?

Don't worry! You can send a message to the teacher on Purple Mash explaining which part they found hard. You can also watch all or part of the lesson back. The recordings are saved in the 'Files' section on Teams. Links to resources are also available on Purple Mash, so looking back at these is also a handy thing to do.

Well-Being

During these challenging times, it is really important to be aware of our children's (and our own) well-being. Children often miss the routine of school so we hope that the live learning will help with this. It's a good idea to get children to stick to week-day routines like they would in a usual school week. For example, having meals at regular times, reading with your children at the same time each day, and regular bedtimes.

Time away from the screen is also important. Now that children will spend several hours a day accessing lessons on screen, try to give them breaks of 'screen-free' time so they are not watching TV or playing computer games straight after their lessons. Exercise is really important, so if you can get outside safely for fresh air, this will help children focus (and sleep!)

Critical Workers

On Tuesday I wrote to parents of children who have been coming into school. We have a shortage of places for children in school so we must limit the numbers who attend each day. Therefore, we insist upon the following rules:

- **Places can only be offered to children where both parents are critical workers and in work.**
- **Children of critical workers must only come into school on days when there is no adult at home who can look after them (including grandparents).**
- **If either parent works a half day (morning or afternoon) children must only be in school for the time when both parents are at work.**
- **You must inform us if you know your child doesn't need a booked space.**

Meals from Week Commencing 18th January

Please see our e-mail sent out regarding meal vouchers. These will be sent to all our parents of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children to cover the cost of lunches for 10 days.

If you are a Critical Worker and your child has a place at school, from next week, all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will need to bring a packed lunch.

If your child is in Year 3 to Year 6 and you have paid and booked a meal on Parent Pay, this will still be ordered for next week, however, no meals will be available from **Monday 25th Jan** and they will also need to bring a packed lunch. All outstanding bookings will be cancelled and refunds will be made.

ALL CHILDREN IN SCHOOL FROM MONDAY 25TH JANUARY WILL NEED TO BRING PACKED LUNCHES

For parents of children still coming into school:

Please note, you must still follow the Covid rules and **no children must come to school with any symptoms or if members of the household have symptoms**

Guidance on Symptoms

If your child develops any symptoms of Covid-19, he/she and any siblings must not come into school for 10 days from the first day of the symptoms.

Symptoms are:

High temperature; New/Continuous Cough; Loss of Smell or Taste

You must arrange for your child to be **tested** as soon as possible.

If your child receives a **negative test**, he/she and any siblings may return to school.

If your child receives a **positive test**, he/she and any siblings should remain off school for 10 days from **the date of the positive test and school must be notified.**

If it is known that your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, your child must isolate for 10 days, even if they have no symptoms.