

# Waterside Primary Academy

Blackhorse Avenue, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 1QU

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Website: [www.watersideprimaryacademy.org](http://www.watersideprimaryacademy.org)

Headteacher: Daniel Atherton



**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Re: Remote Learning**

Following the announcement last night, I am writing to you to confirm plans for our remote learning which will commence tomorrow for most classes.

Staff are currently in the process of hand delivering work packs to all homes. This is a big operation and will take a while to get to all households. We have prioritised children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to receive the packs first, so that their live remote learning can commence tomorrow at 9.15am. Packs for other year groups will follow this, with work set for these year groups on the class pages on our school's website.

This has caused many significant challenges for us and we have all tried our best to do this as quickly and thoroughly as possible to try to minimise the difficulties with accessing the remote learning. Unlike the lockdown last summer, we have been asked to provide online lessons every day to ensure children continue to make the same progress they would make in school and to enable all children to have contact with their class teacher and learning support assistants. Although we have been working on these plans for months, we know that there will be many teething issues with accessing the lessons and work during the first few days and weeks. We feel that this is unavoidable as the whole face of education has changed. Therefore, I kindly ask you to continue to support us as we problem-solve our way through the issues that will most definitely arise. Your feedback over the first few sessions will be imperative to us to help the provision evolve over time in order to make it as successful as possible. I have briefly explained the plans for each year group in the table below:

Year Group	Lesson Start Times	Further information
Nursery & Reception	First sessions – Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am – Story time 11.15am – Phonics 1.15pm - Maths	Remote learning for Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January will be uploaded onto 'Wye Class' school website page. The timetable may change for Early Years depending on the work they are doing in class.
Year 1	First sessions – Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Phonics 1 pm - Pathways	Remote learning for Wednesday is in the work pack along with instructions.
Year 2	First sessions – Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Reading/Phonics/English 1 pm - Pathways	Remote learning for Wednesday is in the work pack along with instructions.
Year 3	First sessions – Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Reading/English 1.15 pm - Pathways	
Year 4	First sessions – Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	



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	9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Reading/English 1.15 pm - Pathways	
Year 5	First sessions – Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Reading/English 1.15 pm - Pathways	
Year 6	First sessions – Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.15am - Maths 11.15am – Reading/English 1.15 pm - Pathways	

All lessons will be live streamed on Microsoft Teams. The work packs will include instructions of how to access this using your child's personal username and password. Another copy of this document is attached to this email. The accounts will be live from 8.45am tomorrow for children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Accounts for all other year groups will be accessible from 8.45am on Thursday morning.

We have been asked to monitor engagement with the remote learning. Therefore, should children not be taking part, we will contact you to ensure that all children are continuing their learning.

Finally, I have included a list of FAQs which may answer some questions that you may have. These can be found below.

Thank you in advance for your support with this new method of education!

Kind regards,

*Mr Atherton*

## **FAQs – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Does my child need to access the lessons at the times stated?**

Ideally, yes. This will mean that they will have interactive contact with their teacher and their class. They can ask questions and see live demonstrations. However, videos will also be available after the sessions which would be useful for households with multiple children and not enough devices.

### **2. What if I can't access the Online Learning?**

Please carefully follow the instructions to log in. If you can't access the lessons after a few attempts, please contact the school office and we will assist.

### **3. Can my child have other work like CGP books or worksheets delivered?**



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No – we have been asked by the Department for Education to deliver the remote learning in this way so work in school mirrors that of work at home. Lessons that were planned for the classroom will now be delivered online so the children’s learning will still continue.

#### **4. How long can I access the lessons for after they have been delivered?**

The videos will be saved and can be accessed at any point during lockdown.

#### **5. Will teachers give feedback on lessons?**

Yes – group feedback will be given and individual feedback can be given to all of those who are part of the live lesson. Work will be collected in after lockdown as these books will continue to be used in class.

#### **6. How can I contact my child’s class teacher?**

Teachers will monitor the class emails during the working day (8.30am-4.30pm). The class email addresses are in the following format:

[classname@watersideprimaryacademy.org](mailto:classname@watersideprimaryacademy.org)

e.g. [chess@watersideprimaryacademy.org](mailto:chess@watersideprimaryacademy.org)

Work and achievements can be shared with the teachers via Twitter or the class email addresses. Tapestry will continue to be used for Early Years and Year 1.

Any other communication should go through the school office as usual, especially any urgent communication.

#### **7. How do I know the timetable of live lessons?**

These will be on the calendar on Microsoft Teams. We may also add times and dates onto the class pages so please check both. As a general rule, lessons will be at the times stated above every day.

#### **8. Can the lessons be viewed on a Mobile phone?**

Yes – it may not be as easy to view and follow but this should be possible if you use the Microsoft Teams App.

#### **9. I don’t have a device. When will I receive these?**

We are awaiting further guidance on these from The Government. We will inform those who have requested these as soon as we know. I appreciate that this does not help you at the moment but it is



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out of our hands. I will contact you all tomorrow to make arrangements should we have not heard anything more.

### **10. I am entitled to free school meals. How do I claim these?**

We are still awaiting information about these from the Department for Education. If you have any urgent need, please contact Ms Essex by calling the school office or emailing [familysupport@watersideprimaryacademy.org](mailto:familysupport@watersideprimaryacademy.org)

### **11. Has my child been offered a place in the vulnerable/key worker group?**

An email about this will follow once I've had a short siesta.

