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Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, I think we were all a little surprised by the announcement last night! Thank you so much for bearing with us at such a confusing time. It is disappointing that the government announced the move to online learning for schools at such short notice - having spent several days planning for different scenarios this came as something of a shock, and I am particularly disappointed that the announcement came so late in the evening, leaving many of us unable to talk to our children about the implications for them until this morning.

As from tomorrow we will move to online learning, but we ask you to please bear with us as we still iron out some issues in the face of this rapid change. **Staff will be in contact with you to explain what will be happening, so please look out for this email.**

I would like to reassure you all that, as always, this is a journey we embark on together. The school is here, and remains open to key worker and vulnerable children whilst moving to online learning. This will look a little different from the first lockdown, and there are different expectations placed on the school, and therefore our children, for the coming weeks.

Online Learning

In order to staff the school adequately, whilst ensuring a high level of online learning, teaching staff will be concentrating mainly on planning, delivering and responding to work online, whilst our lovely TAs support any children that are in school. The online learning may take the form of some 'live' lessons, some pre-recorded videos, links to different topics, worksheets, and independent work. More details will follow soon from your child's teacher. We are mindful of the fact that many families may have one device between more than one child, and we will try to timetable any live input at staggered times to allow as much access as possible.

During the next few weeks the expectation is that all children will access online learning. We will be moving learning forwards, and teaching children new skills and concepts, so it is important children engage each day with the learning set. The government expectation is that children complete three hours of work a day, and at Broadmayne we view this as a mix of different approaches across the school day. Whether children are in school or at home, they will all be accessing the same teaching and learning at the same time each day, and via the same sources.

We will be expecting children to 'register' each day so that we know they have accessed the learning - for Years 1 to 4 this will be via Google Classroom.

If you have any issues accessing the online learning please contact your child's teacher.

Contact with families

You may remember that during the last lockdown the staff kept in touch with you all via email or weekly phone calls. We will be continuing with this, mainly through the 'registration' on Google Classroom, but we will also make well being phone calls as necessary - if we do not hear from you on a regular basis you run the risk of a visit at home to make sure all is well!





Children in school

Although the school is open to key worker and vulnerable children there is a limit to how many we can accept, and once this is reached we will be unable to offer further places. Please do not request a place for your child if there is a parent at home who can care for them, or if you are able to work in a shift pattern that means they can be looked after at home - we need to have as few children in school as possible to reduce the risk of transmission in our community. We will give precedence to vulnerable children.

Local Food Links

Local Food Links have asked us to pass on the following information:

Following on from last night's announcement that schools will be closing with immediate effect, we would like to reassure you that, due to these unprecedented times, we will be crediting all meals ordered from Wednesday 6th January to Friday 12th February back onto your Local Food Links account. We do not need you to contact us, this will be done automatically in the next week.

I will keep in touch with you all whilst we navigate this new phase in our school journey. Any worries or problems please don't hesitate to pick up the phone or drop me an email. We will do whatever we can to support you all during this second school lockdown - please don't stop supporting us as well!

I will, no doubt, be in touch again soon with further updates,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Collings

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Mrs Collings

