

Dear Parents and Carers

## Distance Learning Expectations

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your continued support and patience this week whilst we try to establish how Begbrook will be operating under the current Lockdown restrictions.

For children who will be at home for the duration of the lockdown period, the government has set very clear expectations as to what each child should be receiving in terms of an education. In line with government expectations, we will be providing at least three hours of distance learning per day. Distance learning will differ per year group so that it is age appropriate, but you can expect a mixture of the following:

- Live lessons: These will take place at least twice a day via Microsoft Teams. To support with the smooth running of these sessions, please ensure you have your Microsoft Teams login details available. They were emailed to you last summer (Reception and Nursery – your details were emailed earlier this academic year). Live lessons will be recorded so if your child is unable to access the lesson at the time, they can view the recording later.
- Independent tasks: These may be a follow up to the live lesson or a separate task completely. The learning will follow the curriculum content that would have been delivered in school. All children learning from home will receive tasks in line with those set for children in school.
- Narrated PowerPoints: These will contain curriculum content and explanations to support learning.
- Begbrook YouTube videos: Class teachers may upload videos that demonstrate how to teach a particular skill that will be needed for the independent learning (for example, how to use the column addition method in maths). They may also produce videos of stories or poems for the children to enjoy. This will allow children to view learning more than once and to re-refer to teaching points as they are needed.
- Links to websites and video clips: You may be directed to other websites and videos that support the learning being set.

A live lesson for each class will take place on Thursday or Friday this week as a trial run to enable those children who have not used Microsoft Teams in this way to have a go. Invitations to a minimum of two live lessons each day will begin on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

You will be emailed a copy of the weekly learning overview, giving details of when live lessons will be taking place each day so that you can plan around this as necessary. You will also receive an email with the daily distance learning sheet as normal.

## Learning resource packs

We have put together a learning resource pack for each child. These contain vital resources to support with the children's learning and should be collected. These will be available to collect from the service yard (the car park next to main reception) at the following times:

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	9:30am – 10:30am	2:00pm – 3:00pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	9:30am – 10:30 am	2:00pm – 3;00pm

Please ensure you wear a face covering and adhere to social distancing guidelines when collecting the packs. Also, use the hand sanitiser provided at each table before touching the resources.

If you are unable to collect the pack, please let us know so we can work out the most effective way of delivering your pack to you.

## Communicating with school

If you have questions that relate to the distance learning, please use the year group mailboxes. These will be monitored throughout the day and teachers and teaching assistants will aim to respond as quickly as possible.

[year6info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year6info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[year5info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year5info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[year4info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year4info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[year3info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year3info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[year2info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year2info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[year1info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:year1info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[receptioninfo@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:receptioninfo@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)  
[nurseryinfo@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:nurseryinfo@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)

If you have other questions, please continue to use the main school mailbox: [info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk](mailto:info@bpa.cabot.ac.uk)

The school office will be open during the school day if you need to telephone us: 0117 903 0386

In the previous lockdown, we made telephone calls to each child to check in and see how they were. These telephone calls have now been replaced by access to live learning, which will allow the children and teachers to see each other on a daily basis.

As part of the learning, we will want to gain feedback from the children so that we can plan for their next steps. You may be asked to communicate with us by sending in photos via email, completing forms or by children taking part in live feedback sessions etc.

## **Access to technology**

If you do not have access to a device such as a tablet or laptop, or have limited access due to the number of people in your household, and therefore will not be able to fully access the online distance learning provided, please let the school know as soon as possible. We have a limited number of devices that we are able to loan out.

## **Free School Meal Vouchers**

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, the CLF are arranging for vouchers to be issued for the first week of term 3 from their existing CLF scheme – this will be 4 days at £2.30, totalling £9.20 per child. We are hoping these will be ready to distribute by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January where possible. Further information regarding this will be provided soon.

We are anticipating the government will set up a payment scheme like the one previously set up in last year's lockdown. We will update you with further guidance once this has been made available.

We know this is a really challenging time but we have seen already how resilient and positive our children are. They continue to amaze us and make us extremely proud!

We are very much looking forward to the day when we can have everyone back at school safely. But until that time, please remember we are here for all our families and if we can do anything to support you, then let us know.

On behalf of all the staff at Begbrook, take care and stay safe.

Laurie Munro

Senior Principal