



# Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

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Dear parents/carers,

Firstly I would like to thank you for your support today and bearing with us whilst we sort out the detailed plans for the new lockdown. As you will know, we are expecting to be in this National Lockdown until at least February half term so we want to ensure that remote learning is in place for all pupils who cannot currently attend the school. Whilst wellbeing and safety continues to be of the utmost importance to us, this time round the learning that takes place is too. We are aware that many of you will be juggling working from home and/or helping more than one child in their learning. This might mean you end up supporting your child at different times in the day which is absolutely appropriate.

## What we expect of you

- We are asking that you ensure your **child completes learning every day**. Whilst we will provide a minimum of 3 hours worth of work for Reception pupils up, we do ask that you ensure they complete as much as they possibly can.
- Learning will be posted on **Tapestry/Seesaw** for each day and this is where you should post the activities completed.
- If you do not have internet access, you can **collect paper copies of the work on a Tuesday and a Thursday between the hours of 11am and 1pm**. You should **bring back completed work** when you collect the new work which will be passed on to the class teacher to mark.
- We ask that you **upload work (or hand it in) at least every other day** and will be calling you at least twice a week if we do not see any learning taking place to offer additional advice or support.
- Please remember to follow all the **National Lockdown guidelines** to help keep you and your child safe. We strongly recommend taking the opportunity to go for a family walk once a day and get some fresh air to support wellbeing. You can find out the new rules at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-national-lockdown>

## What you can expect from us

- **Learning will be posted daily** on the online platforms (occasionally two days may be posted in one go but this will be dated) or can be **collected in paper form on a Tuesday and Thursday** between 11am and 1pm from the office. (If you require a paper copy but are isolating, please call us and we will do our best to post it out to you.)
- We will set **work that is based** on what the children **would be doing** if they were in school so they do not fall further behind. This means that when they do return, they will be able to continue as if they had been in. For this reason, it is **vital that they complete the home learning set**.
- This time, we have developed our systems to include **video lessons** from the teachers using Loom as well as using a variety of other platforms like White Rose Hub.
- If we do not see the learning the pupils have completed on Tapestry/Seesaw or in paper form at **least every other day, staff will call** home to see what further support you need in order for them to complete their work.
- Every week on a Monday, Mrs Rogers will be holding an **assembly** which you can join! A text message with the link to Zoom will go out on a Friday (as well as it being posted on Tapestry/Seesaw). Those who wish to join should ensure they have signed in by **9am on a Monday**. Just after 9am, all those who have signed in will be admitted. For safeguarding reasons, you enter the assembly with cameras and microphones off and we ask that you keep them off so everyone can only see Mrs Rogers. Thank you.



- We will be working on ways to **celebrate the successes** of online learning and keep you posted on this as the term progresses.

### **Additional activities if you want them**

Should you complete all the work set and want extra work, please remember that for Years 1-6 pupils have a PiXL and a Lexia login. There are two PiXL Apps – one for times tables and one for vocabulary. Lexia is an amazing 1-1 tuition program to support reading. Ideally, pupils will complete at least 20 minutes a day on here as it will target exactly what they need to work on and requires no support from you. Both of these are free for you to use as we pay for them as a school. Their login details were sent out last term but feel free to contact your child's class teacher if you need any help logging in or finding passwords.

### **Extra information**

We have put together a website page on remote learning which includes a **suggested timetable** for your daily activities and **other tips/answers** to questions you may have. You can access this information at: <https://www.dashwood-aspirations.org/curriculum/remote-education-provision/>

If your child is eligible for **Free School Meals** (not the Universal Free School Meals), you should have received a text message today asking you to contact us to see if you would like a weekly hamper as we do not want to waste food if it is not required. Please ensure you call the office by 11am tomorrow morning if you would like to access this offer. Hampers will normally be due for collection every Tuesday between 11am and 1pm but for this week only it will be ready on Thursday between 11am and 1pm. (Please note that if you are signed up for a hamper but are isolating, please call the office and we will do our best to deliver it to you.)

We understand that is a very worrying time for you all. Please know that we are still open to offer **support** and advice. The school office will take calls and pick up emails daily and there will always be a member of the safeguarding team in school every day. If you are **worried** about **wellbeing** for you or your child, you can find support and advice at: <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/looking-after-yourself/coronavirus-and-mental-health/> or <https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/services-for-schools/mental-health-resources-for-schools/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-schools/> and <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus/mental-health-advice-older-people-during-coronavirus-outbreak> You can also find advice for online safety to help ensure your child uses devices appropriately at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-staying-safe-online> and <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> Please ensure that you limit game screen time daily and they switch off all devices at least an hour before bed to help keep a good routine.

Whilst I miss seeing your lovely smiley faces everyday, I know that together we will stand strong as a community, do what needs to be done to help bring this virus under control and ensure we keep everyone safe. Please do contact us if you need anything at all and we will do our very best to help. Stay safe everyone.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Amy Rogers

Principal