

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The DFE expect all children to engage in home schooling for at least four hours per day in KS2 and for at least three hours per day in KS1 and Early Years.

Consequently, teachers have to monitor levels of engagement of every child. We do this through Google Classroom, Google Meet and work that is submitted for marking, either through Google Classroom, through email or by bringing the work into school on paper for marking.

We are concerned that your child does not appear to be undertaking home schooling because they are not engaging in the above learning activities.

If your child is not completing the home learning, then they will be substantially behind in their learning.

The work set for home schooling is the curriculum that would be taught in school, it will not be repeated because learning will move on when the children return to school.

Children have now been out of school for a whole half term, that is a substantial amount of learning. If a child misses parts of their learning they will miss a number of the building blocks which will make future learning harder to understand.

We cannot, despite best endeavours, enable your child to catch up on a whole half term's learning. Therefore, it is imperative that your child undertakes their home schooling or it will affect their future journey in education and their ability to reach the set milestones.

We understand that this is a difficult time and that there may be barriers for home schooling. Lack of technology or lack of understanding of Google Classroom can present difficulties. In that case, we can email the work directly to you or provide paper versions of the work and we do have some electronic devices that may help. The nature of your home life may mean that you are juggling a great deal, in that case we ask you to prioritise the learning and undertake the essential core subjects of maths, reading and writing.

You are not alone, there are many families who are struggling at this time. Some have found that their children's behaviour has changed, due to lack of routine and lack of contact with other people. Again, we can support you and offer advice.

The team at Woodlands is here to support you in whichever way we can but I cannot emphasise how important it is that your child engages with the home schooling for the sake of their education, their emotional wellbeing and future success.

As the parent it is your responsibility to ensure that your child undertakes the home learning during this time. Please contact us through the year group email so we can discuss where your child is at in their home schooling and together plan the next steps to enable your child to engage in the learning that they need.

Yours sincerely,

T G Newton

Headteacher

Year Group Email Addresses

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