

NEWSLETTER



8.1.21

Spring Term—Week 1

First of all, may I wish you all a Happy New Year and I hope you had a wonderful break and you enjoyed the snow!

The national lockdown and the move to remote learning has been our main focus this week and I hope you have received the communication, instructions and support over the week to enable your child to access this. We have opened school to key worker and vulnerable children following the national guidance and ensure we are providing a real parity of provision for the children in and out of school.

As many of us are parents, we know the real challenges of home learning and working—whether that is the balancing work with learning, different aged siblings, the technology that doesn't always run smoothly and the very different routines and expectations children have when learning at home compared to school.

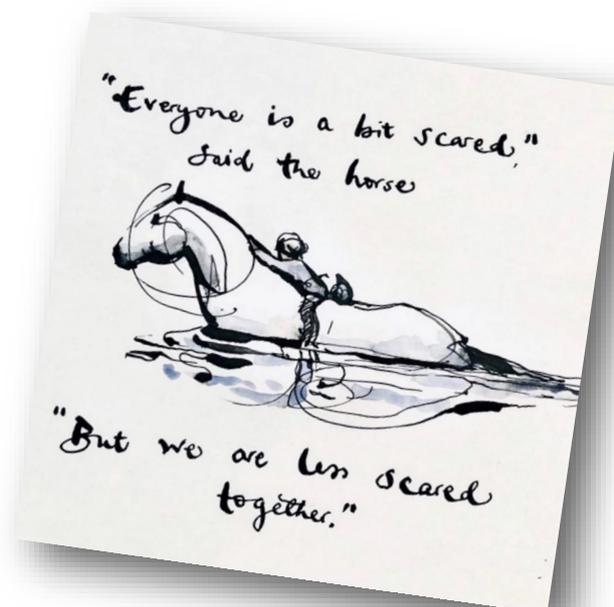
As in the previous lockdown, our main priority is the welfare and wellbeing of children and families. We are on hand to support you and children during this period.

Our home learning design allows flexibility to complete the set work when it is best for the routines of your household, especially where there are siblings who also need access to devices. Please do as much as you can, but not at the detriment of the wellbeing of your household.

This newsletter will provide an overview of our remote learning for your information and reference. Should you have any questions or need support, please make contact with school via the year group e-mails.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Martin



What will be provided for remote learning?

- ⇒ Children will have access to a daily English, Maths and wider curriculum lessons. These are pre recorded lessons to follow with associated work set.
 - ⇒ We have tried to move away from worksheet related learning for families where printing is difficult.
 - ⇒ We have provided a book, pencil (and pen for Y5 and 6) to complete their work.
 - ⇒ The work set will be designed for most children to access - 'scaffolding' will help children access the learning set by providing an extra bit of help if children are finding it challenging. There are 'stretch' activities for children to move onto for a challenge!
 - ⇒ Some SEND pupils will receive a personalised learning pack next week which will give specific activities linked to their area of need.
- ⇒ There will be 3 daily check in sessions for your child to connect with others and to seek support from the teacher regarding the work set.
- ⇒ Your child may seek additional support via the chat function or you may ask questions via the year group e-mails.
- ⇒ You may be directed to a national initiative such as Oak National Academy, or [maths.co.uk](https://www.maths.co.uk) in Years 5 and 6.
- ⇒ A timetable of the week's learning will be sent to you before Friday evening, so you can plan ahead for the following week.

Feedback on learning

- ⇒ For Maths, answers and solutions will be provided to allow work to be marked at home. **If your child has found the work too challenging, please let your teacher know.** They will either provide additional support, or adapt future lessons.
- ⇒ For English, we are asking that two pieces of work are submitted each week—these pieces will be specified in the videos by teachers. Guidance to upload this work will be sent via Parentmail. **Please practise this next week rather than e-mail.** From the 18.1.21, work can only be submitted via TEAMS, otherwise we may have 120 e-mails of work submission which is unmanageable.
- ⇒ Feedback for English work will be generated and given to the children as a class and learning adapted to address errors or misconceptions.
- ⇒ You are welcome to submit the wider curriculum outcomes to share and celebrate with the children in and out of school.

How often should my child sign in to a live meeting?

- ⇒ We would really like to see each child once a day, however we recognise that this may not be possible with sharing devices. We will keep a contact register in school to ensure we see and speak to each child across the week.
- ⇒ For pupils who are not able or do not attend several live sessions or do not submit work, we will call home to discuss the work and their welfare.
- ⇒ For pupils with additional needs, we will make contact on a weekly basis to check in and ensure they are accessing the pack of work which has been distributed.

Can I borrow a device?

- ⇒ If you need to borrow a device from school, please let us know. We have received our allocation of 6 devices from the DFE and are awaiting the opportunity to order more after 15th January.
- ⇒ The Trust IT team are preparing ipads to distribute to families who have already approached school.
- ⇒ Kinver KOBRA committee are kindly providing school with refurbished, second hand laptops which we will distribute also.
- ⇒ We have secured a limited number of pre loaded SIM cards, with 20GB of data to be used in mobile devices.

I'm using my phone data—can you help?

- ⇒ We can also request additional data from selected phone companies free of charge for home learning.
- ⇒ We can request WIFI dongles from the government if your child receives free school meals.
- ⇒ If you need the support listed above, please get in contact with Mrs James.

If families cannot access the remote learning, children are classified as vulnerable and are entitled to attend school.

What are the term and conditions for TEAM use?

Parent Agreement for Remote Learning using Microsoft Teams Classroom

At Brindley, we fully recognise our responsibility for safeguarding children and young people. The action we take at our school to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm is everyone's responsibility. As we extend our classrooms online, it is essential that we obtain and secure the full support of parents/carers to ensure all of our children remain safe at all times whilst online.

When participating in a video conference on Microsoft Teams Classroom, I understand that:

It is an extension of the classroom and my child should conduct themselves as they would within the classroom.

I/We do NOT share my child's School Email address or reveal their passwords to anyone. I understand their school Email is for internal use only and not for sending or receiving emails from outside the school.

My child's use will be monitored and logged and can be made available to the Leadership Team of Brindley Heath Academy

My child will only take part in 'live' lessons when an adult is present in the room and supervising them.

They will be on time and prepared for their interactive lesson.

They will be dressed appropriately for learning.

The lesson is conducted from a safe environment that is quiet and free from distractions with a neutral background.

I/We will be responsible for their and others within the room, behaviour and actions when online, including the resources they access and the language they use.

My child will interact patiently and respectfully with their teachers and peers

We/they will NOT record each other's online interactions. If the lesson is to be recorded, this will be done by the teacher.

We/they will end the session as soon as the teacher indicates to do so and do not stay in the session after the teacher has left.

We/they will NOT share resources or videos created by teachers with anyone who is not a pupil or member of staff at Brindley Heath Academy.

We/they will NOT record or take photos of classmates or teachers during a face-to-face session.

We/they will NOT share any school content on social media platforms.