Suckley School

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Dear parents/carers

I am writing to you regarding remote learning if the need arises for your children to learn at home again, e.g. due to self-isolation or a national lockdown.

We understand that each family's circumstances and their access to learning material for their children differs, and the responsibility to provide educational support at home can be difficult for families. It was difficult on many levels. A home is not a classroom, parents are not teachers, some parents needed to continue working, IT equipment was in high demand in some households and the children themselves were given very little time to adjust to the changes. Teachers were also home-schooling their own children and then planning for and teaching the key worker children whilst providing work for those still home learning.

We all know, however, it is important that pupils remain engaged in education, even when they are not attending the school site. There is no easy answer that will be right for everyone. We would like you to support us in encouraging pupils to access home learning to ensure they are not missing out on vital education.

I would like to thank you for your valuable comments made in our parent survey, in relation to our previous remote learning. As I'm sure you can imagine, the responses varied hugely, however there were common trends which we have addressed. We have amalgamated our online provision into one portal.

Teachers will send an email each day using Purple Mash which will include and detail what the learning tasks are for that day and when they are to be completed by. There will be a maths, English and a non-core subject task each day. Additional curriculum resources, including videos, will be added to the email. Using Purple Mash the children will then be able to email the teacher back when the work is completed each day and the teacher will provide feedback when they receive the work. This will enable the communication and assessment between the children and their teacher to be greater. We will also ensure the work matches the need of your child, either by extending them or providing additional support where needed.

If a whole bubble is self-isolating we will also provide Zoom meeting opportunities for each year group. This will be optional for the children.

To ensure the children continue to receive a high-quality education outside of school, we will continue to monitor their engagement with remote learning in line with our Pupil Remote Learning Policy which can be found on our school website.

Please remember other activities that you complete with your children are also invaluable. I loved hearing about the achievements the children made during the previous lockdown: learning

to ride a bike, learning to Zoom, playing chess, learning to read music, woodwork skills, growing cucumbers, exploring the countryside, making cups of tea, learning Spanish, writing a diary- to name but a few!

Thank you once again for your ongoing support should we need to provide remote education for your child. If, for any reason, you or your child experience difficulties with any remote learning arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the school office via email to discuss any alternative arrangements. I would once again like to thank you for your continued cooperation and for working with the school to support your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Field
Head Teacher