



BROAD CHALKE C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Brockway

Chair of Governors: Mrs Louise Hall



4th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Following on from the 8pm announcement from the Prime Minister, the school is now only open to the children of key workers, children with an EHCP and children who are deemed vulnerable as specified on my newsletter earlier today. According to the speech by the Prime Minister this will be until at least February half term.

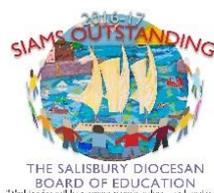
All staff are required to be in school in the first instance as we are unsure of the numbers of children attending at this stage. All eligible children will be welcome, regardless of whether or not you have managed to return your form to us but the forms will be required as we progress through this week.

Once the children are in school at the normal time (including those who attend early birds) the teachers will make sure the work is ready, register the children and then hand over to our Teaching Assistants to supervise the children who are in school. The teachers will then focus on remote learning for the children at home. Please bear with us as we put everything in place as this announcement was so sudden. We do have exercise books which we will organise for collection and inform you when these are ready. The first day in particular, with such little notice, is going to require flexibility and patience. Our plan is that parents will receive a daily email from teachers and this will explain the learning tasks. The teachers will be working on this tonight. If there are learning tasks to be completed and sent back to teachers these tasks will be set via our learning platform called Seesaw. I have also asked teachers to do a daily Zoom meeting with their class to make face to face contact. This will count as registration so please ensure that your child is able (with your help) to log on at the right time as specified in the Zoom invite which you will receive from your child's class teacher. However, we will not be setting up Zoom meetings tomorrow as I'm sure parents can appreciate that there is much to organise. When we do set up Zoom meetings, children need help with this and our school broadband cannot support multiple live Zoom meetings, so these Zoom meetings will be staggered throughout the morning.

Please can class 6 parents be aware that unfortunately Mr Howell is on jury service so we will have to take a slightly different approach and just send out the weekly plan and resources by email. Fortunately, Mr Howell has planned with remote learning in mind just in case this was necessary as we discussed this possible scenario before Christmas. Class 6 will not therefore have any work on Seesaw at this stage. I am also unable to tell you when the jury service will be completed but it may last for 2 weeks. The timing is inconvenient but unfortunately completely out of my control. It has already been confirmed that there are no changes to jury service as it is an important civil duty. Also Mrs Turner our year 6 TA will not be in school this week due to a sudden family bereavement. However, we have a supply teacher who can supervise the key worker children in Y6.

You may be aware that the government has promised schools an allocation of laptops for remote learning. We have not yet received our allocation of 5 laptops. However, if any child has no access to remote learning please do get in touch with us and we will see what we can do. Please be aware that we also need devices for the children who will be learning in school.

More information will follow about free school meals for pupil premium children as and when we receive it. I have asked kitchen staff to provide meals for children in school tomorrow but please send a packed lunch if your child was not due to have a cooked meal. We will need to think about the viability of cooked lunches once we know how many pupils will be in school.



These are strange times indeed but we've done this before and we can do it again, hopefully with increased daily interaction between teachers and children as we know that this will help to provide motivation.

My heart really does go out to parents who found this difficult last time. We know that you, like us, will do your best to support all of our children.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Amanda Brockway
Headteacher

