



Friday 9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to outline our approach for pupils who cannot attend school as a result of government guidance such as self-isolation, shielding or the closure of a class or bubble.

There is much talk in the press about a two-week lockdown. Schools have not been informed of planned closures. However, I have been told that schools will remain open despite any local restrictions. I will keep you updated if this changes.

At Thornhill, we are committed to ensuring that all children receive a quality education in the form that has been designed by our school. Therefore, we are committed to ensuring that any remote learning is aligned to the school curriculum, and children are collectively enthused by their education. For example, we will continue to celebrate our themed weeks (e.g. Art Week, History week, etc.) remotely.

Our curriculum aims will therefore continue to be delivered via DB Primary, and teachers will take ownership of remote learning with children's individual needs being accounted for. However, there might be times when teachers will direct families to some online learning resources such as MyON, Read Write Inc., Times Tables Rockstar, Busythings, Mathletics, BBC Bitesize, IslingtonCS Learning Packs, Oak Academy and more.

We will provide links to remote learning for the duration of the self-isolation period so that your child does not fall behind in their education. This plan applies to staff, pupils and families who **MUST** self-isolate if they display any of the following symptoms:

- A continuous, dry cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of or change to their sense of smell or taste
- Have tested positive for COVID-19

The plan is also applicable to children who have received a shielding letter from the doctor, advising them to self-isolate.

Our aim is to ensure remote learning is accessible to all pupils, and so we will be monitoring engagement through your child's attendance online. We will target families with low engagement because it is your child's right to continue learning during a period of self-isolation.

Remote learning is not provided for children who are absent due to sickness.

In event of a 'Bubble' or 'whole-class' closure, teachers will provide some online video learning clips to support your child during the closure.

We have carried out a survey to ascertain access to technology and Wi-Fi because we are aware of the many children who were 'sharing' laptops with older siblings whose schoolwork took priority, and those without Wi-Fi or a laptop/smartphone/iPad etc. We have a list of children and will provide laptops as needed.





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Communication is essential, and we would ask that if there are circumstances that mean your child cannot engage at least partially with the remote education, parents speak to me. We can then work together to find an alternative way of providing work.

Please ensure you have completed and returned your Ping Survey as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Miss Lewis
Headteacher



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