



St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust  
Sedgley Road  
Penn  
Wolverhampton  
West Midlands  
WV4 5LG

## Woodfield Primary School

Headteacher: Philip Salisbury  
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Thursday, 07 January 2021

Dear Parents

Firstly, I would like to thank you on behalf of us all for your patience and understanding since the government announcement on Monday night. As always, the staff here have been wonderful in their response to this, and we have had online learning available from the first day after the announcement, while at the same time continuing to teach those children of keyworkers who need to attend school. We are determined to maintain our high standards of work and expectation for the children through this difficult time.

The online learning we provide is tailored for the age of the children and how much support they may need to access remote learning. All children will receive input every day from their class teacher or other member of staff who work in your child's year group and this may be in the form of pre-recorded teaching input, live lessons or activities set through Purple Mash. We will also be directing you to other websites and platforms such as TT Rockstars. Your child has a logon for all of these platforms and it will involve all of these options at some point during the week. All children will have the opportunity to have live interaction with a teacher from their year group each day. At the start of each day, there will be a class blog with a list of activities, as well as videos and other resources. It is important your children watch the instructional video **before** trying the work. If your children are stuck, or need help, a member of staff is **always** online, so please use Purple Mash or the staff email to contact them, as a staff member can respond there and then. One thing to note is that our teachers will be online between 8.30am and 4.00pm. Any work submitted after that may not be answered or responded to until the next day.

Lessons, and how these are delivered, will naturally evolve over the course of the lockdown as we respond to how the children are learning. There will be teething problems, as there always are when technology is involved, but we will endeavour to solve these as soon as possible and seek solutions to any problems that arise. There is an expectation that children engage with learning, and this will be monitored, so please do contact us if you are experiencing any difficulties so that we can support this. Staff will provide feedback to pupils on the work completed. This may be written feedback or verbal feedback during live lessons. We know some people are having difficulty accessing the work, either from a lack of devices, or data. We are looking into how we can help people with this, but at present the government has sent us 9 laptops for the entire school. We are looking at how we can increase this, but we have heard nothing from the government this week. We have also been investigating ways in which we can access free data for people, but we are doing this ourselves and have received little or no help for the government on this either.

If your child is not accessing work, we will be contacting you by phone or by Teams to see if we can help. We may also do this if your child requires additional support, as all our TAs are assisting the teachers with online learning. Please be aware that the school number may come up as 'Withheld' on your phone, so please get back to us if we have left a message.

Another point to make is that the content that the children are receiving in school is **exactly** the same as what is being delivered online. There is no difference for those children who have to attend school. Can I remind parents that, while we are happy to have all eligible children in school, if you or your partner are at home you really should be keeping the children at home. We have had 5 times more children in school than in the first lockdown and, while we understand that parents have to work, we need to remember that the whole point of lockdown is to limit the amount of mixing that children do in the school setting.

We fully appreciate that remote learning of this nature is not an easy task for parents, especially given the demands of an already difficult situation. Please do contact us if we can be of any help. Please also know that we



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are still here for all of our families and if you are in a situation where you are isolating or need to attend urgent appointments and need assistance for your children during this time, do not hesitate to get in touch to see if we can provide help and support. Finally, I am told Microsoft Teams can apparently be accessed through X-Box and Playstations. How to do this varies depending on the type of device, but there are videos on YouTube on how to do this!

The arrangements for attending school remain as they have been since September regarding times, drop off and collection arrangements and what the children are able to bring to school. We have been notified that there will be no fruit deliveries so if you would like your child to have a mid-morning snack, please send them with a piece of fruit. We have had to change some of our in-school timetabling and, as a result, your child's PE days may have changed. Please ask your class teacher when their PE day is. Could I make another request for all parents to wear a mask when dropping or collecting children and please keep 2 metres away from staff when talking to them.

Children are required to wear school uniform on the days that they are not having PE. However, we are required to keep windows partially open so you may wish for them to wear extra layers or a warmer jumper. Breakfast and after school club is still available, so please contact us if you would like to use this service.

The usual guidance regarding what to do if anyone in your household experiences symptoms of Coronavirus apply, and we ask that you inform school immediately if this is the case and to isolate accordingly. Similarly, if anyone in your child's bubble tests positive and is identified as a close contact, your child may be asked to self-isolate.

Please could we request that, if you have not already done so, you download the Sims Parent App from the Appstore to your mobile device and allow push notifications. You will be able to use your current Sims Pay login details to access the app. We will be using this app to communicate information from the school including updates and documentation. The app enables parents access to student information and the school to keep their contact details current and up to date, as well as supporting the safe transfer of any data and the upkeep of what is collected. This app will enable the school reduce the amount of paper resources the school send out.

Thank you for all you are doing. We can't wait to see you all again. Stay safe and wishing you all good health.

Yours sincerely

Philip Salisbury  
Headteacher