



Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my email yesterday, I am writing to let you know the approach we will be taking to remote learning as well as offering information about our key worker and vulnerable pupil provision. As communicated last term, we will be using MS Teams to deliver remote learning across KS1/2 and Acorns will predominantly be using Tapestry. It is therefore important that you as parents regularly check these platforms and the school website for information and updates.

I would like to thank those of you who have done us the courtesy of allowing us the time to make the proper arrangements before emailing or telephoning the office. The office staff and the staff teams are working really hard to make sure we get this right and get the information out to you as quickly as possible.

On-site Learning

The school will provide on-site learning for identified children, including those considered to be vulnerable and those with EHCP's; and children of critical key workers who are unable to make alternative arrangements. This link specifies the criteria of key workers if you need to check your eligibility:

[Critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings)

As the new variant of the virus is so virulent, we would encourage you to access the minimum number of hours in school needed for the protection of your family and our staff. To support key workers and vulnerable pupils, we will re-open our school doors tomorrow morning for a soft start from 8am for parents who would normally use Breakfast Club, for all other children school will open at 8.30am and will run until 3pm. Children in school will be accessing the same online provision that is being offered to the children learning at home.

Please see the following government guidance:

- If there are a large number of requests for places, the school will prioritise key worker places for a child of a key worker for whom both parents (or a parent in a single-parent family) is a key worker, with no other safe alternative.
- Children who qualify as children of key workers will be in the school building for 'supervised' learning. This is not the same as 'face-to-face teaching'; this is the supervision in the school building undertaking the same activities as the children who are at home.



Afsheen Nawaz - Headteacher

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Given our small school profile, we will be operating one bubble for those pupils who do need to attend. This bubble will consist of one teacher and two members of support staff to ensure that we are able to provide the adequate amount of support for our SEND pupils, in line with their EHCP commitments. The staff will be operating on a weekly rota basis thus ensuring that they all receive a two week period of working from home which will further mitigate the risk of the infection spreading.

Week Commencing 4 th January	Week Commencing 11 th January	Week Commencing 18 th January	Week Commencing 25 th January	Week Commencing 1 st February	Week Commencing 8 th February
Miss Papacosta Miss Wells Mrs Gonzales	Mrs Harrison Miss Clark Miss Hook	Miss Healy Miss Khan Ms Huzaifia	Miss Papacosta Miss Wells Mrs Gonzales	Mrs Harrison Miss Clark Miss Hook	Miss Healy Miss Khan Ms Huzaifia

**Please note the rota above is subject to change at short notice in the event of a member of staff contracting the virus or having to isolate. The week your child's usual class teacher is scheduled to be in school you will not receive pre-recorded video links, instead you will be directed to the National Oak Academy website for alternative teaching input and you can still expect to receive a full schedule of home-learning each day. This is to ensure that staff well-being and workload is being prioritised.*

We have ensured that there will always be a qualified First Aider on site to deal with any accidents, injuries and medical related issues. Safeguarding will continue to be our number one priority and we will be following all usual procedures and policies to ensure that we are doing everything we can to safeguard your children.

- Children attending school from tomorrow should dress in PE clothes and school jumper or cardigan, they will also take part in Forest School on **Tuesday** afternoons and should come to school with wellies and appropriate warm clothes to spend the afternoon outside.
- Our lunch provider will be unable to send packed lunches, milk and fruit have also been suspended by the suppliers. Please send fruit snacks for break and a packed lunch daily, along with a water bottle.



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- Children will have their temperature taken on arrival and if it is above 37.6 they will not be able to attend school.

Home Learning

In line with our Remote learning Policy (which was sent out last term and again yesterday), we recognise the importance of maintaining high expectations in all areas of school life and ensuring that all pupils have access to remote learning resources and support they need to succeed. As such, we have reviewed our remote learning provision from the last lockdown and moving forward will be largely operating on the following basis:

- All learning will be available from 9am each morning
- There will be at least three videos per day which will feature a teaching input segment and then some follow up work for the children to access. Class Teachers and support staff will be on hand for you to ask questions and to support you and your child through the process. KS1/2 can use the noticeboard feature on MS Teams to ensure that everyone can benefit from the staff response.
- Acorns will be using Tapestry and you can expect to see daily live/pre-recorded sessions focussing on phonics, either literacy or numeracy and an additional area of learning e.g. Understanding of the world.
- Birch class can expect a daily video input session on Phonics, English and Maths and will receive written guidance/work on activities to complete for the foundation subjects.
- Willows can expect a daily video input session on Reading, English and Maths and will receive written guidance/work on activities to complete for the foundation subjects.
- KS2 pupils will continue with their weekly multiplication tests via Times Table Rockstars
- KS1/2 pupils will also continue with their weekly spelling tests via the use of Spelling Shed
- Staff will be available throughout the course of the day to assist and support in any way they can. However, please note that you may not receive an immediate response as staff may be engaged with supporting another child/group of children at that time.

There is an expectation that pupils will engage with their home learning set by their teachers and completion will be monitored. You will be contacted individually if we are concerned about your child's engagement or the amount of work completed. The DfE expect 3 hours of learning each day for primary school children. The termly curriculum overviews for your child's class are on the school website under key information so you can see what subject areas your child will be learning this term. That being said, we are acutely aware of the pressure being placed on working parents who need to juggle both work commitments and remote learning and fully appreciate that some of you will need



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the flexibility to support your child at a different time. If this applies to you, then please contact your child's class teacher so that we can account for any delay in engagement from your child.

If you need to contact the class teacher, please do so via MS teams using your child's log in details (KS1/2 or Tapestry for Acorns class). This will be monitored by staff on a daily basis. To notify us of any changes to your family circumstances or for messages for me or the office, please use the normal office email.

We have been told that provision for children entitled free school meals (not universal KS1 meals) will continue during this lockdown but have no further details at the present time. As soon as we have an update, we will let you know.

Clearly this is a challenging time for everyone and we are committed in supporting you to achieve the best outcomes possible for your children. Please remember there are lots of lessons you can teach from home. Whatever 'learning' you are making happen at home, we thank you. We will use all our skills and expertise to support your children when they return to school.

We understand that these unprecedented times are placing additional pressures onto everyone's mental health and wellbeing. Although I know many of us are making adaptations to our lives to try to include within our new routines activities that will help to support our wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have concerns about your child as we are very keen to offer whatever support we can.

What we need right now is for them to be in the best possible place for learning. Please therefore share your calm, your love, your connection, your humour and your care. These are the greatest gifts you could give to your children right now.

Thank you again for your continued support. Please look after yourselves and your loved ones and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school soon.

With best wishes and kind regards,
Miss Nawaz



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