

PURPLE CLASS SPRING TERM 2021 (*in and out of school*)

Dear Purple Class families,

Ok, so it's far from normal service this term already and we all know that this could be for quite some time. Despite very short notice for the closure of schools we have worked hard to use what we already know and have learned previously to set up a system that we want to share with you all.

The *main aim* is that children don't lose their love of learning whether they are at home or in school as a child of a critical worker. We are under no illusions about where and how children learn best but we must do what we can under the circumstances.

We've outlined below some key principles and ideas that will help us to make sure we are as supportive of you as possible and make this next term work for all of us.

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS	The children who are in school are expected to do the same activities as those at home. Every day there will be a phonics activity, a literacy/topic activity and a maths activity.
TIME	The pace of learning is very different at home for obvious reasons but also in school as groups are smaller and sometimes mixed aged. We have tried to set daily tasks that we feel are manageable for most children. It may be that one child can do a task in 10 minutes and another will need longer. You know your child and when they have spent enough time on a task and are getting too tired.
EVIDENCE FROM HOME	If your child is learning at home it would be great if at least once a week you could check in with me via email to let me know how your child is getting on. Please do feel free to send in photos or videos of your child's learning.
CHILD AND PARENT CONTACT WITH CLASS TEACHERS	I will try to send home a daily phonics video so the children can see me every day and keep up with their phonics learning. I have either seen, emailed or spoken to most of you this week and I will be keeping in contact throughout this period, however long it lasts. I welcome and appreciate your feedback - particularly if you are struggling. This is not an easy time and I will be here to support you as much as possible. However, you will appreciate that being in school with key worker groups, managing home contact and my own children's home learning is a challenge so bear with me if on the odd day I haven't had time to prepare a video or take a bit longer than I'd like to get back to you via email or phone.
IN-SCHOOL GROUPS	As you will no doubt appreciate the structure of groups in school is subject to change as the situation changes. For this first week we have kept year group bubbles with class teachers but this will change for some year groups from Monday 11th. You can rest assured that the children in school will get the same work as those at home and still be in contact with their teachers.
EMERGENCY CONTACT	<i>If you have a positive Covid test result that would require us to immediately contact and close a bubble in school. Please use the dedicated email positive@westchiltschool.com for that.</i>

Thank you as ever for your engagement and patience - we will continue to all work together to get through this!

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