

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

Dear Turquoise Class Families,

I'd like to wish you all a happy New Year, but it's not the start we were all looking forward to! We received very little notice of school closures, as you will know, but 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. We are under no illusions about where and how children learn best but we will do the very best we can under the circumstances.

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

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS	The children who are in school are expected to do the same activities as those at home. We do expect all children to try to engage fully in daily maths, spelling and English activities.
TIME	The pace of learning is very different at home for obvious reasons, but this is also the case 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. If you find your child needs a lot more of your time or has done everything 5 minutes then it's worth letting us know.
EVIDENCE FROM HOME	Please don't feel that you need to provide significant email / photo evidence that your child has completed their tasks. However, if you could check in with me via email (please use <a href="mailto:turqparents@westchiltschool.com">turqparents@westchiltschool.com</a> ) on a weekly basis just to let me know how your child is getting on, that would be useful. Your child also has their own school email address (e.g. <a href="mailto:asmith@westchiltschool.com">asmith@westchiltschool.com</a> ) so they can contact me to ask any questions or show me anything they've done. You have enough to do without becoming your child's secretary!
CHILD CONTACT WITH CLASS TEACHERS	I will endeavour to send regular videos through the week so the children can see me and keep up with their learning. Initially, these videos will focus on reasoning in maths. I will also arrange some small group video calls to check in directly with the children too - it's important they still feel part of a group and motivated to learn and hopefully some conference calls will help with this. However, you will appreciate that being in school with key worker groups, managing home contact and supporting the children in my own home is a challenge, so please bear with me if on the odd day I haven't had time to prepare a video or I take a bit longer than usual to respond to any emails or phone calls.
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 groups from Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> and quite possibly beyond this point. You can be assured that the children in school will get the same work as those at home and still be in contact with their teachers.
CONTACT WITH YOU	We welcome and appreciate your feedback – particularly if you are struggling. This is not at an easy time. <i>We do ask though that you recognise we are up against it more than ever so you may not get responses to emails the same day we read them.</i> <b><i>The only exception to this is 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 <a href="mailto:positive@westchiltschool.com">positive@westchiltschool.com</a> for that.</i></b>

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

Dom Bradshaw

[turqparents@westchiltschool.com](mailto:turqparents@westchiltschool.com)