

Altmore Infant School & Children's Centre

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Rowlands, Head of School: Ms Carolyn Marles

18th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and everyone close to you are safe and well.

It is extremely disappointing to be back in full lockdown at the start of 2021 but I am sure you understand how important it is to ensure everyone's safety. We are really hopeful that all children will be back to school as soon as possible.

Eligibility for a school place

During this period of national lockdown Altmore Infant School remains open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children must stay at home and access their learning remotely until at least February half term.

Remote Learning

To support your children's learning at home please remember:

- The most important thing is that we all stay safe and well (physically and mentally) during this global pandemic.
- Child development is a balance of academic attainment, emotional wellbeing and physical health.
- Children worked really hard last term and were able to show us that they were catching-up with their missed learning – they will do this again when our school re-opens fully.
- It's really important that:
 - you talk to and reassure your child(ren)
 - they practise their reading, writing, counting and timestables as often as they can
 - they stay active and have as much exercise as you can organise
 - they are able to explore creative art & crafts if possible.
- Please try your best to not let them just play, watch too much TV, or overuse i-pads/tablets/phones, etc., we need to make sure that they have a balance of thinking, working, exercising and relaxing.

Children will be accessing their remote learning via our online platform: SeeSaw, government guidelines indicate that children should be working for 3 hours a day. Each year group has a suggested timetable – this can be accessed on SeeSaw.

- All children have access to all of their learning throughout the day (as per the timetable) – teachers plan and record specific lessons that facilitate children’s access at any time.
- All children should be uploading their work as they complete it, so that their teachers can mark it and give feedback.
- Our specialist PE Coach is also uploading lessons that everyone can participate in and enjoy.
- Class teachers will also organise a Zoom meeting each week so that everyone can see and chat to/with each other.
- Staff will be making telephone calls to those pupils who have not been able to join-in with their online learning, or the Zoom class meetings.
- Paper work packs can be collected from school if you are not able to access the online learning easily at home.

Before you leave your home and come to school:

- Please ensure that you do not have any symptoms of Covid-19.
- Please ensure that you have not been in contact with anyone who has symptoms or a positive test result.
- Please ensure that you wear a face covering/mask.
- Please ensure that you are able to scan the NHS COVID-19 track & trace app.

Once you have collected your work pack, you should leave school straight away so that you do not come into contact with any other parents that will be arriving.

Device allocation

You may have heard in the news that the DfE is providing schools with laptops and chromebooks for pupils. Almore has been allocated and received 30 laptops, we are busy allocating these to families.

Free School Meals

The Government has released information re. FSM Vouchers - the school is allocating vouchers to all eligible families. You should be receiving your vouchers via a text message, as you did before.

If your child is not entitled to free school meals, but you are currently experiencing difficulties please let us know, we and staff in the Children’s Centre are able to support you.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Rowlands

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