



New Bewerley Community School
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Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

RE: CHILDREN LEARNING AT HOME

In light of the most recent Government update, schools have been directed to close from today, Tuesday 5th January 2021 until February half term.

In order to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, we need to keep children and staff in school to an absolute minimum and the school is essentially closed apart from the children of **key workers**, and **children identified as vulnerable** as defined by the UK Government, **considering strict social distancing guidelines**.

As your children will need to continue learning at home, we will ensure that daily lessons will be available. Your child's teacher will ensure that work is uploaded every day to our online learning platform, Seesaw. A member of staff will be monitoring this work every day to ensure that your child has logged on and is completing the work. If they have not accessed the learning, a member of staff will phone home to offer help and support. For families who have **previously indicated** that they have struggled to access online learning due to internet or device issues, we have provided pupils with the loan of a school laptop. If you feel that your child may meet the criteria for a loan, please contact school. As we only have a limited supply of devices, this may mean that you are put on a waiting list.

It is quite likely that your child may feel fed up or frustrated about having to return to home learning once again – we will be doing our best to check in regularly with them through Seesaw and phone calls to check in and provide support and reassurance. We are always available if you need advice. Setting good habits such as agreed learning times throughout the day will be helpful in giving your child a structure – we would suggest a 9am start so that your child can complete all their English and maths work in the morning and then their topic work in the afternoon. Make sure there is time for playing and exercise too!

Currently, we are awaiting further guidance around the provision of free school meals – we will contact you as soon as we have clarification on this. Government plans regarding schools have evolved from day-to-day and we still do not have the full information. Please bear with us; we do not yet have all the answers and are sharing the information we have. Any lack of clarity is due to these extreme circumstances and is entirely beyond our control. We really do appreciate your understanding.

I wish you all the very best during the school closure, and I hope that you, your families and your friends stay safe and healthy. I would like to remind you of the advice from the Government around this: ensure that you wash your hands frequently and limit all unnecessary travel and social contact. It is crucial that we all play our part and follow these steps to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

A huge thank you to all of you. By working together and by putting such precautions in place, we will get through this and I look forward to writing to you in happier times.

With best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G German'.

G German
Headteacher

