

Windmill Hill Academy

Inspiring Passionate Life-Long Learners

Windmill Hill

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Friday 25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely having all our pupils back in school again and we are so impressed with how well they have settled back in and are progressing with their learning.

However, I am writing to reassure you that if schools were asked to close again we have a contingency plan in place to ensure minimal disruption to pupil's learning. We will also endeavour to provide home learning resources should a 'bubble' be closed temporarily or should your child be at home isolating but not unwell for 14 days.

Our contingency plans will be sequenced in a way that is linked to the school's curriculum expectations. We will ensure our staff have the necessary training to use our online tools. We also recognise that younger pupils and some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education and provide adapted support and resources where needed.

During the previous period of school-closure, our current online communication program Class Dojo was highly effective in maintaining good contact and communication between children, families and staff. We will continue to use this as the program to set and respond to pupil learning.

We aim to:

- Teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally, with a good level of clarity about what is intended to be taught and practised in each subject.
- Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher in the school or through high-quality curriculum resources including recorded videos and some enhanced provision for live learning where achievable and appropriate (more details on how this will be delivered to follow).

- Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum, using questions, quizzes and other suitable tasks and through the checking and response to the children's Dojo portfolios.
- Adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or tasks, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding.
- Work with families to support and overcome the challenges of home-learning, monitoring and encouraging appropriate levels of pupil engagement in learning.
- Monitor and plan to support pupil mental health and well-being through PSHE lessons.

Ultimately, we hope that this eventuality does not occur and that we do not end up using this contingency plan. The best place to learn is in school with our teaching staff amongst their peers. However, please know that whatever the case, the school will support in any way it can to ensure that our pupils can continue to have access to high quality learning through any disruptions that may occur during this coming academic year. We ask that you support us in enabling your child/ren to access and engage with home teaching and learning to ensure they do not fall behind their peers. Please do inform us of any issues, concerns or problems.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Bassett

