

22/04/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We'd like to welcome you back to our very first ever, remote summer term.

We hope you and your family had a safe and restful Easter break and you've had time to enjoy the sunshine despite the lockdown circumstances.

The School remained open during the Easter holidays for particular families and we are very grateful to our dedicated staff for enabling this to happen.

Unfortunately, schools will continue to remain closed for most children, and as yet we do not know when we will reopen. The Government reported on Monday that there are currently "no plans" to open schools during the summer term.

We told you before the Easter break that we would be reviewing our home learning programme. We did just that with feedback from children, parents and teachers. Your comments are appreciated, noted and discussed. You have played a pivotal role in the way our Phase 2 home learning programme has evolved.

As we look ahead to summer term 1, we'd like to share with you, the Government's expectations and what we are planning to do at Bounds Green for the next phase in our home learning programme.

The Department of Education updated its document, 'Actions for Schools during the Coronavirus Outbreak' on 19th April stating that they have worked closely with the BBC and other partners, to provide 'an enhanced education provision to include daily lessons starting on Monday 20th April 2020'. This programme will provide advice and support directly to parents, including online resources to access at home. This programme will bring 14 weeks of learning for children from 5—15years.

The Government goes on to say that the most important role of the school is to ensure the children of critical workers and vulnerable children, are supervised and properly cared for at educational settings. Schools have flexibility to provide support, activities and education in the way we see fit at this time. 'No school will be penalised if they are unable to offer a broad and balanced curriculum during this period'.

So, our next phase at Bounds Green will ensure that home learning consolidates previous learning and also remains fun. The table below shows Phase 2, which is what will be in place from this week. For your information, we are also working on a Phase 3 model to be introduced in the not too distant future.

Phase 2	Weekly provision for Home Learning (approx. 2-3 hrs per day)	Responses from Teachers
	<p><u>Online</u></p> <p>A combination of activities from Purple Mash and MyMaths In addition, 2 offline activities to be completed on paper</p> <p><u>Offline</u></p> <p>An equivalent set of activities will be sent home in a hard pack for those who cannot access online.</p> <p>In addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will consider a balanced coverage of Science, Geography, Computing, RE and History over the course of the school closure • Teachers are setting work which is adapted to your children <p>We also offer a range of suggested website and activities: Exercise, Internet Safety, Art with Danni, Kitchen Sink Science, Rocalingua, and additional work packs for parents who would like to do more.</p> <p>Look out for weekly additions</p>	<p>Teachers will now:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and comment on activities set online (eg Purple Mash) • Call families where children have not accessed any work • Call families who received hardcopy packs to check how they are doing with the work • Comment on the reading blogs but will not give personal feedback

Distance learning is not school learning, so we will not be live streaming lessons or provide 1:1 tuition for children during this time. We advise you need to find a timetable that works best for you and your family, enabling you to manage your home, your own work commitments and distance learning.

As always we at Bounds Green are here to support you. We believe our current home learning programme is manageable, but please contact us should you wish to discuss any aspect of it. Once again, as stated in my previous letter, when life goes back to some sort of normality, we will ensure that learning throughout the school gets back on track to where it needs to be and that your child will quickly catch-up with the key concepts that need to have been taught for their age.

In the meantime, we know many of you have not only juggled the needs of your family and/or work BUT you have helped your child with the activities sent home by the class teachers. We have not expected you to do our job and act as teachers, but you have supported your child with their learning while dealing with competing demands. Thank you for staying positive, and trusting us in this new world of distance learning.

The most important part of our Phase 2 is to stay connected. We want to reassure you that the health and well-being of our Bounds Green family is at the top of our minds. We understand that this is an anxious time, so it's important for us all to stay connected. Please remember to look on the school website and your children's class page for the weekly learning set by teachers and additional ideas. Our teachers will respond to children's work regularly and don't forget our office can still be contacted via email or by phone.

As always, thank you all for your continued support and understanding in these challenging times – it is much appreciated.

Warm regards

Helen & Will

Deputy Headteacher and Headteacher