BIRTLEY EAST COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Remote Learning Guidance

During the autumn term 2020 we consulted with our families as to how they had found supporting their children at home during the lockdown starting in March 2020. The strong preference was for paper packs to support and go alongside the tasks set on eschools. Some parents also expressed positive feedback about the videos explaining tasks to the children.

Children absent and isolating:

Those who are absent from school but well enough to learn, their class is open
For these children, teachers will provide work packs which can be collected from the main office. **This will need to be requested by parents** as they are able to assess whether their child is well enough to complete work at home. We will need 24 hours from the request to put the pack together and then parents will be contacted to arrange collection. *We do not require any work completed at home to be returned to school, this is for parents to oversee and feed back to children about.*

Closure of a full class/bubble or group sent home to isolate:

- Work packs will be set up for all children within 2 working days of the closure. Parents will be able to then collect these from the school site and they will be notified about how to collect these.
- Work will be set over eschools as it was during the summer term, again this will be started within 2 working days of the closure.

We do not require any work completed at home to be returned to school, this is for parents to oversee and feed back to children about.

Remember that you are providing materials to support parents who are not qualified teachers. We need to strike a balance; recognise they are not experts and support them with sufficient materials to keep the learning going. Think about short, manageable tasks and not a full timetable.

There is some guidance about activity lengths below, for older children/those with more stamina you could include tasks taking a longer, or shorter, time the times below are an indication. The time would be the approximate time it takes to actually sit and complete the task if that makes sense, **so reading the task, discussing it with their parents, watching a programme/video is not part of that time**. It will also vary according to age – approx. 2 hours of set tasks each day with some additional activity/creative tasks/video watching/podcast listening and some reading for pleasure (20 minutes) and further maths basic skills practice, e.g. rockstars/numbots which can be set as a session for children (20 minutes) that should take 3 hours to complete altogether. Remember the time children can actually sustain their focus independently is very short and they are not in school so it is even more challenging. Be realistic. Some open ended and investigative tasks would be ideal in the mix then some children/families can take it as far as they want to.

As a guide:

Daily
- English task, **(10-20 mins)**
- maths task, **(10-20 mins)**
- basic skills (short task, reading, phonics/spelling, mental agility – not necessarily every aspect every day, you judge that) **(5-15 mins)**

Weekly (NC/FS) – **a task/part of a project from the list below which would take about 60 mins per day, block or group content so you could put a couple of aspects together or do a few days/a week on a particular subject.**
- Science/KUW,
- History/geography/PC,
- Art/DT/Music/BI/M&M
- RE/PC
- Computing – as appropriate

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- Some MFL content for **KS2** – as appropriate

Additionally, once per week:
- Guidance and encouragement re physical activity
- Wellbeing content – just something short like a picture or a story to prompt a discussion at home.

Eschools can be populated on a weekly basis and include all tasks or more regularly if teachers feel this is more appropriate – whatever works for your year group and so long as the children get the core offer over the week. It is possible to set tasks up in eschools to 'release' at a set date and time. Children can be grouped and tasks differentiated through eschools, it is appropriate to set work at different levels of challenge, particularly in English and maths.

Teachers and TAs should upload videos of themselves explaining tasks wherever possible, this is often better than any online video resource.

<u>**Resources**</u>

1. Base content around materials accessible easily – look for the programming details for **BBC bitesize** as this is accessible across various formats including via most TVs as content will be on iplayer/red button. You may want to see what the programming schedule is and use this to help shape your offer each week for your class.

So you could, for example, indicate a programme available via bitesize and then set a follow up task. That would work nicely and there may well be linked interactive resources. **https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary**

2. Link below to the **DfE page** where there are various free resources, this may be updated as time goes on so check the link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education

In particular – this is within the DfE list but as we know books may not be available to the children at home:
Audible Website: **https://stories.audible.com/start-listen** Key stages: early years foundation stage to key stage 2
Description: all children's audiobooks are available for free while schools are closed.
Registration: not required
If you have not used audible before I recommend it – often the authors themselves read the texts.

3. **Other stuff… not exhaustive and you'll get various stuff from other people and places, including a lot on the DfE list. See also LA guidance document included below for a more comprehensive review of resources available.**

https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wild-activities-families-and-schools
https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/
https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/
https://learning-resources.sciencemuseum.org.uk/resources/?type=at-home
https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/

Signpost Newsletter - Issue 2[11291].pdf

<u>Staying in Touch</u>

Teachers will track each week to check the collection of packs and engagement online. All staff will make contact with all children in their class at least fortnightly; this will preferably be the teacher making the calls, but could be the TA. All calls are to be logged in CPOMS (our safeguarding tracking system), including where contact cannot be made.

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Parents of any children not engaging with the online learning who have not collected a work pack either will be contacted by the HT/FSW/a senior leader to discuss what their particular issue is.

Wellbeing Support

During the calls home, if there are concerns for the well being of children and/or their families we can offer remote telephone support from our Family Support Worker or from other staff qualified in delivering emotional support. This could be telephone support for parents or, where appropriate, direct telephone support for children.

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