



# SEATON SLUICE MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

Alston Grove, Seaton Sluice, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE26 4JS

Tel: 0191 2370629

Fax: 0191 2373970

Email: [ssms-admin@svf.org.uk](mailto:ssms-admin@svf.org.uk)

Website: [www.svf.org.uk](http://www.svf.org.uk)

**Executive Headteacher:** John Barnes

**Head of School:** Karen McSparron

15 January 2021

Dear parents/carers,

I hope all is well with you and your families.

We have now finished our second week of school during the new lockdown period. We have had 50+ students attending this week and more are expected next week. I have been very impressed at how settled and motivated the children have been.

Teaching staff have been working really hard on setting and marking remote learning during this time. I have had several queries from parents about 'live' lessons and the possibility of having these. At the moment staff are experimenting with different ways of setting lessons, adding voice overs, demonstration videos etc and 'live' lessons may be a possibility in the future. However, we do have a few issues with this, as our staff are in school on a rota, teaching small groups and are not always available to follow their normal timetable. In addition, we do have issues with our Broadband in school and often large meetings will freeze or people aren't able to join. However, this is an area we will look to develop in the coming weeks.

On the subject of remote learning, we are keeping a log of pupil engagement in Google Classroom work and pupils will be receiving merits (calculated and added in school) and other forms of praise from staff. Those children who are not engaging may receive a message home to ask why. If your child is struggling with their remote learning, please contact the school office, or an individual member of staff, to see how we can support them.

We are also preparing for setting up the process for covid testing in school. This will initially be for KS3 pupils and staff only. We have already sent out a message to the parents/carers of our KS3 children attending to see if this something they would agree to. Further information and detailed consent forms should be sent out in the coming week.

In the meantime, I would like to say a big thank you to all of our parents and carers, who have continued to support us at this time. Your kind messages are very much appreciated.

Regards,

Karen McSparron  
Head of School