



St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER 11.02.2021

#15

Dear Parents & Carers,

While this is an extremely challenging time for all our families, who each have their own particular worries and concerns, being part of a proactive Catholic school community means that we can support each other, and especially our children, at this time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our community who have donated devices to support our families.



We do not expect parents or carers to be full-time teachers or to be educational experts. We just ask you to provide support and encouragement. Struggling is allowed and expected! We understand that there is no perfect substitute for learning in a school setting, and many students will find learning from home a greater challenge. Becoming independent takes lots of practice.

The Government has set an expectation that remote education provided by schools should be a minimum of 3 hours for Key Stage 1 and 4 hours for Key Stage 2. The work we provide on Google Classroom is the equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would usually receive in school - this follows the Government guidelines. We know that your family's learning environment at home might not work for these extended periods of time so create a flexible routine that suits you.

We are going through a time of major upheaval to our normal routines and ways of life, and there is a great deal of anxiety in the world right now. Emotions may be running high, and children may be worried or fearful. Try to establish time throughout the day for quiet and reflection. We have some useful resources on our wellbeing page on the School website—click the Mental Health and Wellbeing link on the right to find more information.

We receive regular feedback on our online provision. There is the belief that daily live lessons are the 'gold standard' of remote education; however, this is not necessarily the case. Live lessons have advantages but are not always practical or more effective than other approaches. Different approaches to remote education suit different schools and our decisions are based on our pupils and their families.

A significant number of our pupils do not have daily access to a device and are working from work packs. Many of those that do have devices are having to share with siblings and their parents, who are also working from home. We are providing Loom recorded teacher videos and teaching videos from White Rose and other sites to support learning. Providing pre-recorded teaching means that parents and pupils are free to access videos as often as they need to and at a time that fits with their daily routines. After half term, the school will be introducing some form of live provision and this will be structured in a way that best suits our school community. Further information regarding this will be sent out later today.

Mr Ashburn

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Our Wellbeing team have recently updated the **support for parents** page on our school website. On this page you will find useful resources, helplines and videos that cover a range of topics such as, wellbeing, anxiety, bereavement and sleep.

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/mental-health-wellbeing>

Useful links

GOOGLE CLASSROOM SUPPORT VIDEOS

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/support-with-google-classroom>

GOOGLE CLASSROOM ON CONSOLES

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/access-google-classroom-from-a-game-console>

REMOTE LEARNING POLICY

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/COVID-control-plan/remote-working-policy>

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/mental-health-wellbeing>

GOOGLE CLASSROOM SUPPORT EMAIL

support@stursulascatholicfederation.co.uk

HALF TERM

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom will be closed on Friday 12th February and will not be used during the half term break. Please ensure work is submitted by Thursday 11th. Google Classroom will reopen on Friday 19th February in preparation for the start of Spring Term 2.