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**Mereworth Community Primary School**  
"Lasting learning experiences for life"

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[www.mereworth.kent.sch.uk](http://www.mereworth.kent.sch.uk)

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your hard work supporting your child's learning at home. The staff are really grateful for the level of engagement with the home learning activities set and for the work that has been shared with them and the comments received. I must thank all the staff at Mereworth for their tremendous efforts during this time, adapting to a very different way of providing teaching and learning for the children.

### **Government updates:**

As a result of updates to government guidance for schools during this national lockdown period, we have made some minor amendments to our **School Risk Assessment**: <http://mereworth.kent.sch.uk/reopening-sept-2020/> Please also find attached our **parent protocol** and the **government national lockdown poster**.

### **Remote Learning – Blended Learning:**

At the end of last week, the government published the following changes regarding their expectation of schools' remote learning offer:

1. Schools must provide 4 hours of remote education daily for children in Key Stage 2
2. Schools must provide a range of subjects
3. Teachers are expected to keep a daily record of pupil engagement
4. The school needs to have a named senior leader who is responsible for remote education
5. The school must publish their remote learning curriculum offer on their website by 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### **Mereworth School remote learning offer currently includes:**

- Daily English learning (including loom videos and an English activity)
- Daily Maths learning (including loom videos and the White Rose maths activities)
- Daily Story

This is equivalent to approximately 3 hours of remote education each day.

### **Mereworth School additional remote learning offer to meet the new government expectations:**

- Daily 'Directed Time' which will include activities that are linked to existing weekly learning for the class e.g. spellings, phonics, times tables, maths passport, reading, handwriting practice (approximately 30 minutes each day)
- One PE session per week (approximately 30 minutes for one session)
- One PSHE session per week (approximately 30 minutes for one session)
- Three sessions per week of curriculum subjects (approximately 30 minutes for each session). This may be a few different subjects within a week or a block of one subject which will change each week.

**We will gradually introduce these changes each week during this term.** Teachers will communicate home learning expectations via their daily class emails. Next week the staff will provide Directed Time activities, a PE session and a PSHE session.

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### **Advice for parents:**

We are aware of the challenge that many parents are facing completing our current 'remote education' offer. We recognise that the increased government expectations may be too much for some children and families, however we must ensure that we provide learning in line with the government statutory requirements. **Please ensure that you prioritise the English and Maths daily learning LOOM videos and activities. This is in line with our whole school focus for this academic year of ensuring that we recover lost learning in these key areas.** As we progress through this term we will provide additional lessons from other curriculum subjects including Science, Geography, History, Art, DT, Computing, Music, RE and MFL – French. Each week we will give more information and build up to a wide range of subjects.

### **Daily learning and participation:**

Please ensure that you post your child's name on each LOOM video so that we are able to track every child's participation. This is a statutory requirement in line with the new expectations and we must have evidence of children's daily engagement in learning. Please continue to email the class teacher with examples of work, questions and updates as all of this will be recorded as well.

### **School information for Term 3:**

#### **School packed lunch:**

- Please ensure that there are no nuts or nut products included in your child's packed lunch.
- Please include a separate drink with your child's packed lunch, in addition to their usual water bottle.

#### **After School Club provision:**

I would like to encourage all parents of children currently attending school to make use of our After School Club that is available every day until 6.00pm. As you will be aware from previous communication, the After School Club provision is **fully funded by payments from parents whose children attend** and due to the current national lockdown we have low numbers of children attending. As a result we are concerned that we are not going to be able to operate on a 'break-even' basis. You can book your child's place at the club by sending an email to [casc@mereworth.kent.sch.uk](mailto:casc@mereworth.kent.sch.uk) Please note that payment should be made in advance via Scopay and any cancellation within 24 hours will be subject to the full cost of the session(s). Some parents are booking sessions and then cancelling or not using them, which places the school in a very difficult position as the extra staffing we are putting in place is then not required. **Please find attached a poster with our charges for After School Club sessions.** These have increased by 50p per session to enable us to reduce the loss of income.

Finally, please continue to contact us if you need any support or advice. We want to make sure that every child and family feel supported at this very challenging time.

We are really missing the children who are currently not attending school and would like to wish all our children and families a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss Lavelle  
Head Teacher