



St Charles RC Primary School
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20/01/2021

Dear parents,

Thank you for all your support during this difficult time. Salford and our school has been badly affected by the pandemic and we have had 2 bubble closures in school since the third lockdown in 2021. The safest place for you and your children is at home and our thoughts and prayers are with you at home. We are still a school family, even though we are apart.

We need to humbly ask you for your prayers for our Chair of Governors Stuart O'Brien, who is having treatment, our Head Girl Emily Martin, who is recovering from leukaemia, for Mrs Starkie who is unwell and Mrs Norwood who is recovering from her broken ankle, we wish them all a speedy recovery. We also ask you to remember Mrs Berry and Mr Williams who have both been bereaved recently.

Thank you to all of you for working hard with remote learning. We have contacted those small numbers who are finding access difficult and we have issued devices where needed. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you need anything at all to help with home learning.

Our school has statutory obligations and expectations with regard to remote education:

- **Set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects:** We are committed to the entitlement of every child to a broad, rich, high-quality education, including during this pandemic. Daily remote learning covers at least Maths, English, RE and another subject. Everything we know about what a quality curriculum looks like still applies. The remote education curriculum is aligned to the classroom curriculum as much as possible. And, just like the classroom curriculum, it is carefully sequenced and ensures that pupils obtain the building blocks they need to move on to the next step. Curricular goals are made as explicit remotely as they would in the classroom.
- **Set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, and as a minimum – Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day on average, with less for younger children.**
Key Stage 2: 4 hours a day. It is important that our children have time away from their screens for their mental health and wellbeing, so many of the tasks planned will

encourage the children to be active and have time off their devices. Older pupils are expected to be writing independently for longer sessions. The teacher is available throughout the day, via Google classroom, to respond to their questions.

- **Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos.** Every day, all classes have a registration/wellbeing session on Google Meet that reinforces the previous learning sessions and sets out new steps in learning.
- **Have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern.** Work is marked and 'returned' individually, daily, with any children not engaging being contacted unless we are aware of specific reasons. Our school social media is also updated daily with additional challenges and can be used to upload photographs of children's work. Facebook: St Charles RC Primary Instagram: St Charles Primary Twitter @stcharlesrcpri1. We have also been streaming our Whole School Collective Worship at 10.00am on Monday on Google Meet and Facebook Live and our Friday Celebration Assembly at 10.00am on Google Meet and Facebook Live.
- **Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks, and provide feedback, at least weekly, using digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate.** Feedback is provided individually and catch up support is facilitated and delivered to identified pupils.
- **Enable teachers to adjust the pace of difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding.** Daily feedback and tasks enable the teacher to adjust the lessons based on their assessments. Some differentiated work is provided.
- **KS2 SATs:** The Secretary of State confirmed in a response to a question in the House that Key Stage 2 SATs will not be proceeding in 2021. STA will be confirming the detail on primary assessments to schools shortly.

The work that our school has done since the start of the pandemic to ensure that pupils have access to their educational entitlement, whether at home or at school, has been incredible. To everyone who has helped to protect education during this challenging time - thank you! You are a credit to the children and community you serve. Delivering and responding to remote learning via Google classroom is often taking our teachers well into their evenings and I thank them all for this.

Our Assistant Head, Mrs Drake has been working all hours to make sure that the home learning offer is the best that it can be for our children and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her from the bottom of my heart. She is leaving on Friday to work from home until she starts her maternity leave in April and we all wish her loads of love and luck with the new addition to her lovely family.

Home learning is not easy for families – we are all appreciative of the work you are doing to support us in our role as co-educators. If you have any problems at all that we can help with, please contact us via the main office.

A special thank you to our wonderful children

Everyone is applauding everyone but our children.

These little heroes have stayed indoors more than they've ever known in their lives. Their whole worlds have literally been turned upside down. All these rules they've never known. A life they couldn't have imagined. All the things they love like sports, being with friends, going to school, or just being kids, have all been taken away from them.

Adults talking about others becoming unwell, the news reporting death after death. Our poor children's minds must be racing. Every day they get up and carry on despite all that's going on.

So here's to our little heroes, today, tomorrow, forever.

Thank you once again for all your support. We pray, stay with us Lord on our journey and pray that we can all be together again in school soon. St Charles Borromeo pray for us.

God bless,

e.l. Campbell

Dr C Campbell and Charley 

Headteacher

As a family of God, we love to learn and learn to love