



Seal

*Church of England
Primary School*

Seal Church of England Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs E. Mitchell

Head of School: Mrs L Butler

Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you were all able to have a lovely Easter. Following the recent announcement from the Government Seal Primary School will remain closed until further notice.

I would first like to say how impressed I have been with the home learning the pupils have completed so far and we appreciate the lengths families are going to, to enable children to continue their learning at this time.

We shall continue to post home learning class pages on the school website, in line with the Department for Education directive for schools to provide support so that young people's education can continue during the period of school closure. As a Rights Respecting School we want to ensure that your child has the best education they can receive during this difficult and unique period in their school careers (Article28).

As a school, we have taken the decision to provide a daily timetable for children as this was advice given to schools after evidence shows that routine is important for children's well-being.

One of our core values is 'Independence' and during school, we encourage the children to not rely on a teacher or a TA to sit with them to complete work. We do, however, give the children the resources and input required that will enable the children to complete the work successfully. This concept continues into our expectations of home learning. There is no requirement for you to sit with your child in order for them to complete the work. We have directed teachers to provide videos of the teaching of new concepts where needed which should enable the children to complete the work independently. This will allow your child to take ownership of their learning and allow you to get on with the work/jobs you have.

We do ask, however, that you ensure your child understands the task, if they do not, you can contact the class teacher for further guidance. Your child will be asked to self-assess their work against a set of criteria given by the teacher for that lesson. This is in-line with the classroom practice, and they will already know how to do this. It would be helpful if you could go through this with them.

We do understand that for parents working from home, the timetable may be too much to be followed in its entirety as it mirrors a school day. It is provided for your guidance and we have an expectation that the children complete some learning each day, but understand if you cannot complete all tasks. Likewise, many parents have said that the full timetable works well for them and makes the day go quickly.

We have been asking parents to return work to their class teachers daily so that we can keep in contact and motivate the pupils with regular feedback. If this is not possible due to work commitments, please email your class teacher and arrangements can be made for the work to be sent in less frequently.

We are keen to continue with the school's reward system to motivate the children. The teachers will be awarding pupils with raffle happy marks in recognition of their hard work. We will continue to be issuing rainbow award certificates for the raffle ticket/happy marks gained. The celebration of children's work on the school website has proven to be a very positive experience and I would encourage you to browse these pages with your child so that they can enjoy their own successes and those of others.

I have had some feedback from families that they are struggling to motivate their children to complete any school work; if this is the case and we have not seen any evidence of school work, I will be contacting you as parents/carers and then asking to speak with your child directly over the phone to ensure they understand the importance of home learning during this period of school closure

If you find yourself in this situation and I have not contacted you by Friday 24th April, please email me on:

headofschool@seal.kent.sch.uk

As always we want to work alongside families to ensure pupils are happy, safe and have the opportunities to be the best that they can be. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any point. We hope you and your loved ones are safe and well. We shall keep you updated with regards to when school will reopen.

Best wishes

Mrs Butler
Head of School
Seal Primary School