

Evenlode Primary School

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From little seeds
grow mighty trees

Date: Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

This has been quite a week! Now that we know that schools will be operating provision for critical workers and vulnerable provision only until a review date of January 29th, this letter is to update you with key points from this week's fast moving changes.

Remote learning update

I have been able to see the use of the plans for remote learning and 'Seesaw' in action this week. I would like to acknowledge the staff and how they have adapted back in to remote learning so quickly and effectively. At the moment, we are reviewing the current Blended Learning Policy and building on all the work that was achieved in the previous period of lockdown. We are using this week as an audit to review what works and what could be developed further. We will be in touch with further details about this next week about some changes but in summary, these are the key areas around remote learning that we are discussing:

- developing how we interact with the children to support teaching through video, voice overs and models
- how we connect as a community as in classes and as a whole school remotely
- best ways to structure plans to enable sequential learning but also flexibility for parents in how the day operates

Obviously, with these discussion points, we are also talking about the effective set up of systems so that the technology works how we want it to! We want to get it right so we are building on what we have and what works.

To help us with this, we will be asking for your input through surveys.

Survey 1: access to devices

Please use the link below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5kz-PbCVylilPmCYCBB9Xb_ZUMDU3TjMzWIRPNkiQNEw0VE5DTDczVFZaSi4u

Survey 2: blended learning

Please use the link below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5kz-PbCVylilPmCYCBB9Xb_ZUMkNMSDBWWE9JVkZaVFIHWjVEV1I4SThGSC4u

Our in school provision

Our in school provision for eligible children is in place and working well. There may be fewer children in school but it is still a lovely, purposeful atmosphere. As a reminder, here is the criteria again. If you meet the criteria, please can you email us.

Pupils eligible to attend school

Schools will only be open until further notice to vulnerable pupils identified by individual schools or the children of critical workers. Only one parent needs to be a critical worker to be eligible to access provision. The list of critical workers can be accessed via the following link: <https://gov.wales/identifying-children-critical-workers-guidance>

Please note that priority will be given to the following critical workers:

- Blue light workers, including NHS, Police and Fire Service staff
- Social care staff (including health care workers)
- Front line childcare or education staff

Access to this provision should continue to be used only if there are no alternative arrangements possible. If one parent is able to work from home then the child/children should remain at home too.

In the case of vulnerable pupils, we will be contacting parents directly regarding provision. Vulnerable learners are categorised as:

- children looked after (CLA) where placement has been assessed as at risk of breakdown;
- pupils on the child protection register;
- young carers;
- pupils in need of care and support from social care; and
- pupils with statements of special educational needs.

It may have been a strange week, but it has still been full of lots of engagement and laughter. It has been great to talk to some of you at the entrance, on the phone or by email. I look forward to meeting you all, in whatever way is feasible currently.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend despite the current restrictions, it looks like it might be a chilly one!

Yours sincerely

Ruth Foster

Ruth Foster

Headteacher/Pennaeth

Ysgol Gynradd **Evenlode** Primary School