  

9th October, 2020

**PROVISION OF HOME LEARNING DURING THE PARTIAL CLOSURE OF SCHOOL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Dear Parents,

Thank you once again for the support you have shown as the children have returned to school.

I hope you are all keeping well.

Below we have given details of our school’s contingency plan, should one or more of our class ‘bubbles’ need to close.

We sincerely hope that we are not in the position where we need to close a class bubble, but we feel it is wise to be prepared for such an event.

* School will use the website and/ or texting service to communicate events with parents. PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL OFFICE HOLD AN UP TO DATE MOBILE PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS FOR YOURSELVES.
* The school website will direct families to approved sources of learning.
* After one full day of closure, English and maths lessons will be prepared and delivered to the children daily through ‘Tapestry.’ You will receive an Email with a link. When you click on this link, you will have access to the Tapestry app. When you log in to Tapestry, your child will be able to view a video of their class teacher demonstrating maths and English each day, whilst their bubble is closed. You will also be able to download an English and a maths task for your child to complete daily, as well as a weekly Science task, and a weekly RE one.
* Parents will be able to photograph their children’s work and upload it to Tapestry, so that the class teacher can view it. You may also upload your child’s work and send it directly to the following appropriate Email address for your child’s class:

yearn@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

yearr@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year1@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year2@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year3@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year4@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year5@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

year6@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

* At 9.00am each morning, teachers will contact families whose children have not handed in work from the previous day.
* Parents will be able to access Tapestry through a Smartphone if you do not have access to a PC or laptop. If you do not have access to the Internet, then school can provide a generic paper learning pack, but it will not be possible for this to contain the day-to-day teaching which will be posted online. Please let us know now if this is the case for your particular household.
* Your child’s class teacher will be available should you have any queries about the home learning, or should your child require some support. Please contact the teacher via the Email address. The teacher will then telephone you. If you have access to a PC/ laptop, and your child would benefit from a visual demonstration, then the teacher can arrange a time slot to meet with you on Microsoft Teams. Please ensure that an adult is present with your child during any phone conversations, and please place the device on speakerphone. Please also ensure that an adult is present for any consultations via Microsoft Teams. Using the Teams app on a device enables the teacher to visually demonstrate and model to your child. When contacting the teacher, please bear in mind that you may not get an instant response – the teacher will require a mid-morning and a lunch break, and may have lots of parents to contact. The teacher also needs to prepare, resource and record work for the following day. When you receive a phone call from the teacher, this will appear as a withheld number on your device.
* Teachers will speak to each child/ family once per week as a minimum.
* If the teacher themselves is poorly with Coronavirus symptoms, then the teacher will be unable to provide this service from home during the time of the bubble closure. Should this be the case, then school will make a decision about how to proceed.
* If the children are in school at the time we are instructed to close the bubble, each child will be given an exercise book, stationary and reading books. Obviously, we may be directed to close a bubble at a time which is ‘out of hours.’ As this may be the case, we would like to ask parents to provide an exercise book and stationary for their child now, and to keep these in reserve. We appreciate that this could cause a financial burden to parents. Please contact us now if you would like us to provide your child with stationary which they could keep at home (unused) in case of the closure of their class bubble.
* Children who are entitled to free school meals will receive a weekly food parcel. This can be picked up from school, although the child from the bubble which has closed will need to continue to isolate at home.

Please do bear with us – this is an unprecedented situation, and we do not promise that the above arrangements will be without a few teething problems!

If you experience any technical or practical problems with any of the above arrangements, then please do let us know at school. We will do all we can to help.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Ryan