

ADDMORE FEDERATION
'Together we add more'



Adderley CE Primary School
Adderley, Market Drayton
Shropshire TF9 3TF

☎ 01630 653 829

✉ adderleyadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk

🌐 www.adderley.shropshire.sch.uk

Moreton Say CE Primary School
Moreton Say, Market Drayton
Shropshire TF9 3RS

☎ 01630 638 465

✉ moretonsayadmin@addmorefed.shropshire.sch.uk

🌐 www.moretonsay.shropshire.sch.uk



Executive Headteacher: Mrs Kim Stokes

13th January 2021

Dear Parents

Last week and the position so far

What a start to the new year!! Thank you so much for your patience and kind words over the last week. They have been much appreciated in a very difficult time for all staff who have been juggling their own children's needs as well as doing their very best for yours.

I would particularly like to thank the senior leaders at both schools: Mrs Baillie at Moreton Say and Miss Archer at Adderley who arranged all the practicalities of getting children back as quickly as possible, leading staff in planning for our remote learners and organising making contact with all parents.

It is hard to explain the amount of work that has to go on behind the scenes to make life as smooth as possible for everyone. I know that despite our hard work for many of our parents it is a challenging time trying to home educate, especially if you have more than one child.

The government guidance has been, once more, difficult to navigate and has resulted in further meetings and consultations in interpreting what we need to do. Before I go on to detail what we will be doing in the coming weeks in terms of remote education and in school education for key workers, please can I reiterate the DfE guidance that states that **if children can be at home then they should be**. Our risk assessments have been adjusted to reflect the circumstances in the first lockdown, which means that we can fit fewer children in to each class as they need to be more socially distanced. This is in line with expectations from teaching unions. The scientific advice still suggests that there is minimum risk to children with closer contact; this extra distancing is particularly for the safety of the staff as without them there will be no schooling available at all.

We continued to battle with staff shortages last week, so I am sorry if there was not as much contact as we would have liked. Do feel free to contact us if you need further support or information via the school office or directly via teacher emails if you prefer.

From this week

Staff have now sorted timetables for both the key worker children and for remote learning. The government expects schools to provide **three hours of work per day for EYFS and Key Stage 1** and **four hours of work for Key Stage 2**. We are providing this, but we understand that this may be a struggle for some parents. Please remember that exercise is an important part of every child's daily learning. The minimum daily exercise should be 1 hour; this might be running around the garden, if you're lucky enough to have one. This is learning too, and exercise is good for mental health.

Some schools are going as far as having daily registrations and expect their students to be online at specific times of the day. We feel it is more useful to our parents to be more flexible than this. From an attendance point of view guidance to schools is that schools should **expect parents to call in if their children are sick** while at home remote learning, as they would if they were in school. DfE expectations are that children should attempt the work set each day and that schools must look for evidence that work is being done.





AddMore Federation
Adderley and Moreton Say CE Primary Schools
'Together we add more'



Our expectation is that you engage with the work we have set each day and upload work to Seesaw so that we can feed back to the children and plan their next steps. Education Welfare Officers are targeted to make contact with parents whose children do not appear to be engaging with home learning, so it is important that parents upload completed work for teachers to review. Remember to adhere to the DfE minimum daily work expectation (listed above) but don't feel your child has to finish everything set each day. You could also post photos of your child's exercise (running around the garden!) as daily evidence. We'd love to see them having fun and enjoying themselves. If you are having trouble accessing and posting work digitally, we can help you and if needed provide paper copies for you to collect. We appreciate you doing the best you can, as are we, in a very difficult situation and we will do everything we can to help you.

The most important thing for you to do each day is ensure your child reads to you, if they are younger, or independently if they are older. Information about how to change your child's reading books, should you need to, will come out to you via a teacher email.

Here are some of the other initiatives you can expect to see roll out in the coming days:

- **Videos** by your child's class teacher on Seesaw
- Daily **live Teams meetings** for your child with their class. For younger children these will be in smaller groups and not every day to start with, until they (and parents) get the hang of the technology. Attendance is optional but we would encourage parents to try to get to grips with the technology to allow a time for pupils to have face to face contact. You will need to download Teams onto your device if you haven't already done so – laptop, phone or tablet.
- **Fortnightly catch-up call with parents** and their class teacher. (Please note Mrs Rawsthorne will not be available week beginning Monday 18th January so her parents will be contacted either by Miss Archer or Mrs Biddulph). Please do contact the school office at any time if you need further help and we will get back to you as soon as possible.
- **SEN review meetings**. If your child is on the SEN register your child's teacher and or the SENDCO, Miss Archer will be in touch to arrange a virtual meeting to review their targets over the next two weeks.

Key worker children who are in school will be working on the same timetable and activities as those undertaking remote learning, so they will have similar shared experiences when they are back together as a class again.

You are welcome to contact your child's class teacher direct via email, but please be aware that they may not answer emails on the day they receive them as they have teaching commitments every day. If your email is urgent, please copy it to the school admin address; the administrators will prioritise urgent emails and alert the relevant class teacher. I have directed staff not to answer email out of their directed hours in the evenings, to ensure they get a break and can continue to serve you and your children. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

If there is anyone struggling with devices at home, either because they don't have a laptop, or, you have more than one child and not enough devices, please let us know via the school office and we will see what availability we have to loan out laptops. Thinking of all our families at this tricky time. Keep safe and well.

Kim Stokes
Executive Headteacher

