

BODDINGTON C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Monday, 06 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Boddington C of E Primary Academy Home Learning Support

As it appears that schools will be closed for a longer period than initially intended, we at Boddington feel it is important to share with you both the expectations set by the government on how schools should be supporting children currently at home and also the support that we in Boddington feel it is important to offer you and your children during these extraordinary times. Please see documents attached.

Currently the government guidance for schools from 3rd April is this:

“What are the expectations on schools regarding staying in touch with parents whose child is at home?”

We recognise that many schools have already shared resources for children who are at home and are grateful for this.

DfE is working with the BBC, and other partners, to provide advice and support directly to parents, including online resources they can access for their children at home. Schools should work with local authorities to monitor the welfare of vulnerable children who are not attending school, and other pupils they might wish to keep in touch with, for safeguarding purposes.

Are schools expected to provide education as normal to pupils who are in attendance?

We understand that these are extraordinary times. The most important thing is that children of critical workers, and vulnerable children, are supervised and properly cared for at education settings. Schools have flexibility to provide support, activities and education in the way they see fit at this time. No school will be penalised if they are unable to offer a broad and balanced curriculum during this period.

Do schools need to provide educational support for pupils at home?

We recognise that many schools have already shared resources for children who are at home and are grateful for this.

DfE is working with the BBC, and other partners, to provide advice and support directly to parents, including online resources they can access for their children at home.”

Boddington Primary Academy Whole School learning support

Here at Boddington we feel it is important to maintain some form of contact with all families which includes **supporting parents** with their children’s learning but do not want anyone to feel like we are expecting children to continue learning in the same way they would at school.

Your priority first and foremost is your family’s health and wellbeing. We know that children enjoy structure but also are aware that parents could be working from home and structure must fit around your own home routine and the needs of you and your children. Considering this, we thought that any ideas we share should only be **suggested and not compulsory** and that they should be sent out to you directly via email and on the FB page every Friday so that you have time to look through it for the following week.

On a Friday, we will provide a pdf document of **educational weekly themes and activities** which you are welcome to do with your children. As many families have siblings, these activities will be **suitable for all ages to access in some way**. For maths, the expectations are set out in year groups so you have a general idea of what your child would be expected to do at school, but again, **please do not feel any pressure** if your child does not want to engage, it might be best to come back to it another time, or try something from a previous year group.

The activities each week are **not compulsory** and are provided **only to support you with ideas for activities** that can **consolidate existing skills and concepts**. Please do not feel any pressure to complete all of it each week.

If your child completes work and you would like us to feedback to them for encouragement, please either post it on the private FB page or email your class teacher directly at their class email address. They will be pleased to hear from you!

If your child requires any **extra support** for these activities, please contact your child's teacher and they can **discuss options** with you further.

In addition to the weekly activities, there are also **daily Facebook challenges** (also emailed out to parents) and the private Facebook page is regularly used by the school community so any posts will be responded to. There are also **timetabled live chats** which class teachers will inform you of throughout the week. We also continue to welcome all posts from parents sharing **any activities** their children are taking part in. It is a privilege to be part of you and your child's daily achievements.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support in helping this lovely school thrive.

Kind regards
Oliver Johnson
Head Teacher