

Elvington C of E Primary School Newsletter 15th January 2021



Perseverance
Our Christian value for this
half term.



@pselvington



www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk

Mr. Buttery's Update

Children's Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing

It is important to remember that physical health and mental wellbeing are interlinked, and it is imperative that children understand that good physical health contributes to good mental wellbeing, and vice versa. The idea we can recreate a normal school day remotely is unreasonable. However, we can make the most of this situation. Please keep sharing your home learning experiences; you've all done amazingly well this week!



Blended Learning

All teaching and support staff are working in school to care for the children of key/critical workers and those who are vulnerable, as well as supporting children learning remotely. We have moved rapidly, in the space of a few days, from a situation where the Government was clear that all children should attend school, to one in which schools were asked to educate children remotely, whilst providing onsite education to those whose parents are key workers. I am grateful to parents/carers and staff for adapting so swiftly to the ever-evolving situation.

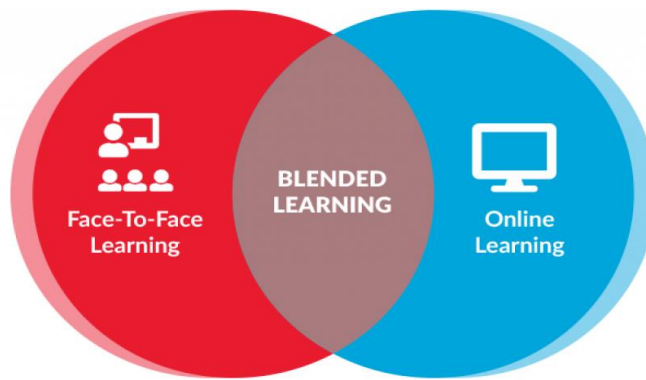
Remote learning lessons for all year groups continue to be shared daily by staff via our Google Classroom learning platform. The children who attend school will be working on the same home learning projects/lessons as those individuals staying at home. Our offer fully meets, and indeed exceeds, DfE requirements.

We want every child not in school to be accessing remote education. As a parent and a Headteacher I am mindful that each and every family faces a unique situation, and that this can change suddenly. Many are adapting to changing working patterns and others coping with illness. Please do what you can to support your child/ren, however, please be aware that there is not necessarily a right or wrong approach - we are dealing with very challenging times...

Staff will be regularly checking Google Classroom during the course of the school day to review children's learning and offer feedback. Please remember that your child's teacher and support staff will also be involved in teaching those pupils still attending school, as a result, they may not be able to respond immediately.

We realise that working remotely can be challenging. If you do encounter IT issues regarding accessing work, or getting Google Classroom to work on your devices, please inform us at office@elvingtonprimary.org.uk. Continue to follow the remote learning links, via the school website, until the issues are resolved – www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk/achieving-success/home-learning.





Key Worker Places

We have experienced increased demand for key worker places during this lockdown. I ask you to only use this provision if when/necessary. We can only allow children who are the children of critical workers or are identified as vulnerable to attend school. If your situation changes or if you are working part-time, or from home, please do not send your child/ren to school on these occasions.

Can I please reinforce that the Government have strongly advised that, if you are able to keep your child at home, it is very important that you do so to limit the numbers of children in school. This is in order to try to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to other children; the wider community and my staff team.



People

West Offices
Station Rise
York YO1 6GA

Email: Amanda.hatton@york.gov.uk

Dear parents/carers

Following the announcement of the third national lockdown on 4 January, City of York Council has been working with the city's schools to ensure that they are able to provide a vital service for critical workers and vulnerable children in the city whilst continuing to operate safely.

At a time when the rates of infection both nationally and locally are rising it is very important that we work together to protect frontline services. At the same time we need to continue to prevent the spread of the virus by keeping the number of household contacts to a minimum.

Last week, the Government followed up its initial guidance on who qualifies as a critical worker. The Government is now asking parents and carers who are critical workers to keep their children at home if possible and only use a school place if they have no other options available.

If you qualify as a critical worker but can manage to have your children at home we would urge you to do so. The fewer children we have in schools, the more it will help in our collective efforts to stop the spread of the virus.

Our schools have risk assessments in place which allow them to work safely and to minimise the risk of transmission of Covid19. For this to work as effectively as possible schools need to have the capacity to support home learning as well as having sufficient staff to supervise children on site. For these reasons they need to keep the numbers in school at a safe level.

We appreciate that this is a difficult time for parents and carers. We know that this situation is causing considerable disruption to your personal and working lives. Schools are also working extremely hard to ensure that places are available for frontline workers and for vulnerable children.

We would also, like you, much prefer to have children in school. However, in order to reduce the rates of infection, and following the latest Government advice, we would ask you to think carefully about your individual circumstances, particularly if you or your partner is able to work from home. If you can, it would be really helpful for the safe management of our schools and the suppression of the virus if you could make arrangements to keep your child at home. Where this proves impossible then we will work with parents and carers to find access to provision.

To help support families during the coronavirus pandemic, our educational psychology team has created a booklet with information about how parents can look after their own emotional health, and support their children, which you may find useful www.york.gov.uk/downloads/LAYLAYC

Corporate Director of People: Amanda Hatton

www.york.gov.uk

You can also keep up to date with the latest information about the coronavirus response in York:

- visit www.york.gov.uk/coronavirus
- talk to your ward councillor
- follow our social media channels: Twitter: [@CityofYork](https://twitter.com/CityofYork) or Facebook
- register for a regular email update: www.york.gov.uk/form/EmailUpdates

We are incredibly grateful for all you have done already and on behalf of the city, thank you for all you are doing to reduce the spread of the virus.

Stay safe and best wishes

Keith Orrell

Councillor Keith Orrell
Executive Member for Children,
Young People and Education
City of York Council

Amanda Hatton

Amanda Hatton
Corporate Director of People
City of York Council

Corporate Director - People: Amanda Hatton

www.york.gov.uk



COVID-19

If your child has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, or is having a test/required to self-isolate, please inform the school using the following email address, as soon as you find out: head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk. The aforementioned email address will be checked regularly - seven days a week and over holidays. The school will always inform you as soon as we can if there has been a confirmed case within your child's bubble and if your son or daughter needs to isolate. However, we will never name the child/staff member who has tested positive.

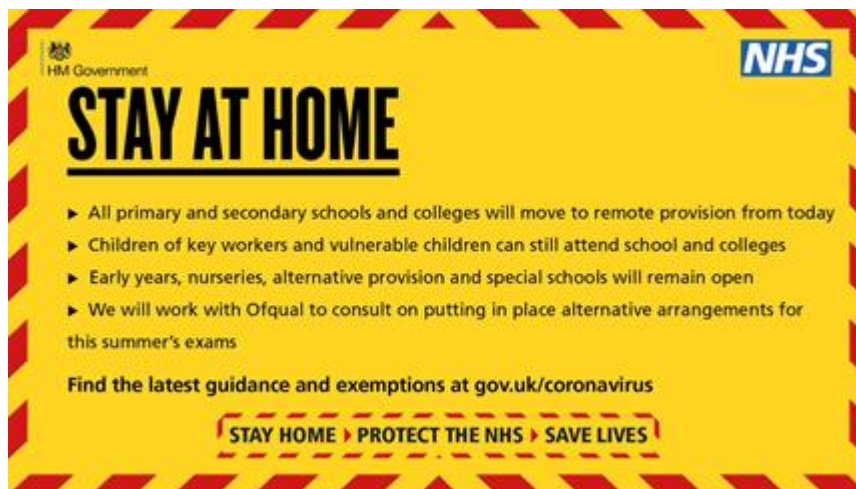
We must all continue to be vigilant of COVID-19 symptoms: a new continuous cough, a high temperature or the loss of taste or smell. If a child, or any member of their household, has any of these symptoms, however mild, they must not come to school and should seek a test as soon as possible by calling 119 or visiting: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Andrew Buttery

"I have come in order that you may have life – life in its fullness." John 10:10



The poster is yellow with a red and black hazard border. It features the HM Government logo and the NHS logo. The main heading is 'STAY AT HOME' in large, bold, black letters. Below this, there are four bullet points: 'All primary and secondary schools and colleges will move to remote provision from today', 'Children of key workers and vulnerable children can still attend school and colleges', 'Early years, nurseries, alternative provision and special schools will remain open', and 'We will work with Ofqual to consult on putting in place alternative arrangements for this summer's exams'. At the bottom, it says 'Find the latest guidance and exemptions at gov.uk/coronavirus' and 'STAY HOME > PROTECT THE NHS > SAVE LIVES' in a dashed box.

