



Yealmpton Primary School

www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk

A partner school in the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST)
Tuesday 2nd February 2021



WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a school we are offering a blended Remote and POSE approach and our aim is to provide flexibility for families, if there are times when you would not be able to access live lessons we have planned recorded lessons as then families can access these at a time that works for their family and their personal circumstances. It is about creating balance for as many families as we can and one size will not fit all.

We know that we cannot please everybody and we hope you understand that we will need to adjust and adapt due to the context of how we are working in any one day or week and the staff we have available to work. Please be aware that different staff may at short notice need to lead live Team sessions, mark remote work or respond to parent emails. The whole team is 'Being the Best they Can Be' and we appreciate how difficult it is for many families and we are really grateful for all that you are doing and for your overwhelming support.

Since the announcement regarding a possible return date, and maybe due to being in the fifth week of lockdown, requests for school places have increased. Whilst the school is committed to supporting children and families where necessary, this has to be balanced with the increased risks to the children in school and the school staff. Our attendance on site is rising and in terms of safety and in order to meet our obligation to deliver remote learning to those children at home, we must now consider any requests on a case by case basis. Our priority will remain supporting households where both parents are critical workers or where a single parent family is a critical worker.

Increasing numbers in school further will increase the risk of transmission and the possible closure of bubbles, which in turn impacts significantly on those parents who are front line NHS workers and those working in other essential services.

Everyday we keep under review our current arrangements for on-site provision, one-way systems, numbers of children and adults in school, bubble numbers to ensure we remain safe, reduce the spread of infection and break the chain of transmission. Keeping the size of the class bubbles as low as possible supports us in maintaining social distancing and safe practices.



Keeping in Contact

I hope you will join with me in thanking the teacher's for how they are striving to keep in contact with families as much as they can via phone and parent email. This little and often keeping in touch messages are really useful in helping us understand how families are managing through the current lockdown and I would like to thank you for all your feedback and support.

Balancing Remote Learning

We know that families are juggling a lot during this current lockdown and it is getting progressively more challenging as time moves on. As a school we are required to offer the DfE recommended hours of learning and would encourage you to support as best you can whilst staying mindful of the commitments you have at home. If there are occasional days when you are struggling to fit everything in, we would recommend following the Maths, English and Reading work set.

Working Together

Over the next few weeks we need to work in a different way for two of our classes and make some adjustments. We would like to thank you in advance for your understanding as these circumstances are unavoidable. The teacher's will keep you informed via parent email of any further adjustments to the teacher supporting each class or small groups of children.

Willow Class

For the next few weeks, Miss Holder will be leading the live sessions and providing learning feedback. Please email the office if you have any queries on a Monday and Tuesday. On a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Mrs. Purchon will be answering parent emails.

Sycamore Class

For the next few weeks, we will use recorded power points on a Monday and Tuesday. On a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Mrs. Purchon will lead the live sessions and will be marking feedback and answering parent emails.

Spread a little kindness ...

One of our treasured school values is 'Be Kind' and at this difficult time, we want to remember how kindness and mental health are deeply connected. Our world is a very strange place at the moment and we are all feeling worried and unsettled and this is when we really see the true colours of the communities we are in. These times make you very aware of the impact and importance of kindness. It is the everyday small acts of kindness that have the biggest impact.

'No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted' Aesop

- Call a friend that you haven't spoken to for a while.
- Tell a family member how much you love and appreciate them.
- Make a cup of tea for someone you live with.
- Arrange to have a cup of tea and virtual catch up with someone you know.
- Help with a household chore at home.



Be kind to yourselves too and have a good day.

Louise Young
Head teacher