



Eastway Primary School
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8th January 2021

School Closure January 2021
Headteacher Update

Happy Friday!

Wow! What a week, only a few more hours of remote learning for you all before the weekend. Thank you so much for all your lovely messages and kind words this week whilst we work to get all our remote learning in place fully, get packs and food parcels out to you all and provide emergency childcare for our key workers and vulnerable children. Amazing effort by all of our school community and reminds me why I am so proud of our school. We have loved chatting to you and your children over the last few days and seeing how well they are getting on with their learning at home. A HUGE well done to everyone! We are really sad to hear that many of our families and children are currently very unwell having tested positive with COVID, we wish you all well and send you lots of love.

Places in School

School will remain closed for the majority of pupils. ONLY children with confirmed places should attend school, staff on our gates will have the list of confirmed places. Please note that we are doing all that we can to minimise risk for our children, families and our own staff and their families whilst infection rates continue to rise, the threat of the virus heightens and we have a large amount of positive cases in our community. We are urging families to only use in-school provision at this time if they have no other option. Currently, we are not able to support families who have parents who are working from home at this time, have childcare available to them or are just struggling with remote learning. The national message remains clear, **Stay At Home** and this includes children and school staff. We all must play our part to reduce the risk and control this terrible virus. We are only able to offer places to those deemed as vulnerable (with named social worker or an education health care plan) or the children of key workers on the days that they work. We will review this and all our plans on Friday 15th January and aim to increase our numbers then and hopefully be able to offer a place for all those who need it as we did in the summer term. I have informed all families who have a confirmed place, only those children with confirmed places must attend school at this time. If you need any help or want to request a place in school, please email homelearning@eastway.wirral.sch.uk.

Free School Meals

Those families who are entitled to low income/benefits related free school meals or Early Years Pupil Premium will be provided with Food Packages each week that school remains closed. Food parcels will contain a balance of items from the different food groups, to reflect a healthy balanced diet for a child, as depicted by the [Eatwell Guide](#) and in line with the School Food Standards. All this week's food parcels have now been distributed. When your packs are ready next week, we will let you know.

When children attend school ALL those from Reception to Year 2 will receive, a free school meal and all free school meal children in Key Stage Two will also be given their lunch in school. When your child attends school, you will no longer be able to receive the weekly food parcels.

Remote Learning and Tech Support

Our remote learning is up and running. All daily learning and tasks are set on our school website under your child's class on remote learning. This follows the timetable and routines that the children will be used to in school so they should be able to access it easily.

<https://eastway.eschools.co.uk/website/remote-learning/511526>

We have provided some basic paper packs for those children who do not have access to the school website but we know that we must now prioritise getting technical support (devices and data) out to our families who need it.

We are getting some devices to loan to families and we are able to apply for increased home data to ensure your child can work remotely through yours or their mobile device.

Who can get help?

This scheme is open to children and young people who:

- don't have access to a [fixed broadband connection](#)
- cannot afford the additional data needed to access educational resources
- have access to a mobile device that uses a participating network
- are facing disruption to their face-to-face education, or have been advised not to attend school

Which networks are offering this?

- Three
- Smarty
- Virgin Mobile
- EE
- Tesco Mobile
- Sky Mobile

If you need any tech support, please use this link to fill in the request form.

<https://forms.gle/A1qec3DJwF7NuBUf8>

Mr Anderton will be on hand daily Monday to Friday to help with any technical difficulties so please email techsupport@eastway.wirral.sch.uk

Digital Devices

In addition, the BBC has a campaign for people/businesses to donate devices.

Google BBC Make a difference or try here

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5SqHJMTKZx5sYhlltXJvB1Q/give-a-laptop>

If you have any old phones or tablets that you are happy to loan to child in need, please let us know.

We are adding a range of information to our school website and social media daily so please follow us on Twitter and Facebook and make sure you keep up to date. If you have not downloaded the ESchools app, we recommend that you do. School office will send a reminder out next week.

Have a lovely weekend and well done on completing your first week of remote learning. Please make sure that you and your children have a good rest and plan to do lots of things that will take them away from their screens, they will have had enough screen time this week.

We CAN do this!

Stay safe

Mrs Morris and Team Eastway x