

Bowes Primary School



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Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you today when you came to pick up your child's Chromebook. The turnout was fantastic and we have managed to get most of them out to our families. Thank you to everyone for following the collection arrangements today and to all the staff involved in their distribution. We sincerely hope that the children were excited when you handed them over. The day ran well considering the vast number of devices we distributed and we hope that we did not keep anyone waiting for too long in what felt like the coldest day in a while! In the meantime, we have been working hard to build on all that we have learnt from the previous lockdown and are regularly reviewing and developing as we learn. Below is an update on the details of our partial opening.

Remote learning

The staff will be working hard to provide remote learning for the children who are at home. Remote learning will be uploaded onto Google Classroom (Reception - Year 6) first thing tomorrow morning. Nursery children will be emailed a comprehensive learning pack. All completed work (Years 1-6) can be submitted onto Google Classroom. For Nursery and Reception, work can be submitted into your child's portfolio on Look@Me. **Please note that there will be times when some class teachers will be in school teaching children of critical worker parents and vulnerable children, so they may not be able to respond to comments on Look@Me/Google Classroom on the same day.**

As part of the remote learning, children (Reception-Year 6) will also have the opportunity to meet with their class and teacher in a live daily session in the afternoon. For Nursery families, this contact will be by telephone over the course of each week.

In the letter sent to parents on the 20th November 2020, we shared our remote learning guidelines, which are organised according to three tiers. We are launching our remote learning at **Tier 2** starting on Tuesday 5th January 2021 and this tier will remain in place until Friday 15th January 2021. At this point, we will carry out another review and will be better informed regarding the Government's plans.

As a reminder, below is the Tier 2 remote learning guidance:

Tier 2	Remote Learning
<p>Remote Learning for Partial Closure (closure of a class/bubble/whole school for a short period of time, e.g. a circuit breaker)</p> <p>My child's whole class or bubble is not permitted to attend school because he/she or another member of their bubble, has tested positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subjects: Reading/Phonics, Writing, Maths, Science, in addition to other subjects as directed by the teacher.• Blocks of work: A weekly timetable of daily tasks will be set prior to the beginning of each week on Google Classroom for all children who are well enough to participate. These tasks will mirror as closely as possible the current class curriculum.• Quantity of tasks: These will be dependent on age/stage of your child.• Teaching: Teachers will signpost children to the appropriate resources, e.g. Oak National Academy, White Rose Maths, BBC Bitesize, EdShed and First News.• Recording of work: Completed tasks should be recorded in your child's Home Learning book and uploaded to the subject folders on Google Classroom.• Monitoring of work: The class teacher will monitor the work completed and give individual daily feedback on tasks in each subject through Google Classroom.• Communication: Each morning the children will receive a video on the Google Classroom 'stream' outlining the day ahead. There will also be a daily 'Google Meet' question and answer session/catch up each afternoon. This will be an opportunity for children to discuss their learning and for the teacher to address any misconceptions and/or celebrate work completed. Children can contact their class teacher regarding their work through Google Classroom. Parent communication should be via the school office at office@bowesprimaryelt.org and not through Google Classroom.

For full details of our [Remote Learning Guidance](#), please visit our website.

Chromebooks

This exciting investment enables the school to provide a creative digital solution to learning at home and in the classroom, and allows all children access to the digital skills they need to succeed in the modern world. This is an extremely exciting new venture and has the potential to transform children's learning experiences, enabling 1:1 learning for every child.

All children have their **own unique email address** and password to enable them to access their Chrome Book and Google Classroom. Children can only join a live event through their unique Google Classroom account. Please note, **we are unable to permit any other external accounts** (parents, friends etc.) onto this platform for safeguarding reasons.

For further Google Classroom Support please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the help page on our website. We have created a short video to help you set up your Chromebook. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access this on our website which will give you all the information you need.

Bowes Club

Parents will not be charged for the Bowes Club during the school closure unless your child will be attending the club. Please ensure all accounts are balanced at your earliest convenience. The club will start on **Wednesday 6th January 2021** for those attending the in-school provision.

School Lunches – The Pantry

Please make sure that all school meals booked online with The Pantry are cancelled for the following two weeks regardless of whether your child is having a meal in school or not. If you do not cancel your meal, a deduction from your online account (if you pay for your child's meals) will still be made, even if your child did not attend school.

I realise that the recent announcements are disappointing, however, please be assured that we will continue to do our utmost to support all our families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school as soon as it is safe to do so.

Thank you for your continued support.

With my very best wishes to you and your families.

Effie Demetriou
Headteacher