



Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

Thank you for your speedy and positive response to the online learning which staff have begun to provide for your child (ren.)

As I am sure you are now aware the directive from the government is that the online provision we have to provide for your child must be purposeful, promote progress and provide feedback regarding how they are doing. I believe this is now in place. This is varying in format depending on your personal circumstances and staff have been directed to ensure all children can and are completing learning at home. The staff at Knypersley First School do not underestimate how extremely difficult home schooling is therefore I urge you to communicate with staff if you have any problems and we will do our very best to help and support you. The learning we provide is not optional and we hope you understand that this is to prevent further gaps forming in terms of knowledge and ability across our school.

Teachers are not on the key worker provision rota and although many are coming on site during the week to record lessons, prepare resources and communicate by phone with some of our children, their priority is to plan provide learning opportunities for all of our children. I will be meeting weekly with each teacher to gain an update on work quality, pupil engagement and any barriers to learning our families may be facing.

### **Laptops**

The government have made huge promises regarding laptops for pupils. In reality, this is not what it may first seem. The laptops have not yet been provided and in fact we cannot even order them. We have been allocated 17, which can only be provided, to our most vulnerable children, of which our school has over 50. We have some devices in school but again due to the limited availability we can only support identified pupils at this point.

### **Accessing Teams via a Play station or Xbox**

You can access Teams via the above consoles- guidance on how to do this has been put in our COVID area and is attached to this email.

### **Free internet data**

If your child is or has been in receipt of free school meals, then you may be able to benefit from free increases to you mobile data if you a customer of either:



- EE
- Three
- Sky Mobile
- SMARTY
- Tesco Mobile
- Virgin Mobile

If you think this might be something you require I will complete the application for you- please just let us know by calling us on 01782 973810 or emailing [admin@knypersley.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@knypersley.staffs.sch.uk).

### Free School Meals

We are still awaiting guidance on how we will provide meals to children who are in receipt of free school meals and who are currently home learning. Once we know more we will set this up immediately. Meanwhile we can make referrals to the local food bank so please contact us if you need any support by calling us on 01782 973810 or emailing [admin@knypersley.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@knypersley.staffs.sch.uk).

As in the previous lockdown this is new territory for us all, demand for in school provision is at full capacity and demands on our staff are higher than ever. We are reflecting and learning everyday! If you have any feedback regarding the home learning being provided please let us know this will help to keep us all motivated and working closely with you.

Best wishes

Mrs E Goodyear  
Headteacher