

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DfE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DfE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



Tuesday 12th January 2021

Dear Parents

I hope that this letter continues to find you and your families safe and healthy during this pandemic. Apologies for yet another update from me but in these ever changing times, it is important that I share with you new guidance and changes in a timely manner. Information is key for both families who are accessing the remote learning package at home and those using Educare in school.

Remote Learning

Over the last week I have spoken with a number of families about remote learning and the different way in which we are now working. I would like to reassure you of some elements which I think are important for us all.

Please be reassured that both myself and the Charleton team completely understand that the experience of remote learning will look and feel very different for different families. Each family has their own individual pressures that they will experience during this time of national lockdown and not everyday will be the same. We completely understand that on some days you will be able to support the children with their learning more than others but we also realise that you are all doing your best with this. I do not want you to worry and I would like to reassure you that we are all here to support you when needed. If you are feeling the pressure of the lockdown then please do get in touch with us, even if it is just to talk through your concerns; we are more than happy to help in any way that we can.

Expectations

Many of you will have seen in the news that the Government set new guidance on what schools MUST provide for KS1 and KS2 children last week. This is 3 hours for KS1 and 4 for KS2; for children in the EYFS, there is no minimum amount of work that must be set each day due to the different nature of their curriculum.

In line with policy, the teachers are setting the amount of work set out above, as they must, based on what they would cover within this time at school. However, we do fully appreciate that it is taking longer for some children to complete this at home. This is absolutely okay! The children are living through a pandemic and remote learning through Google Classroom everyday is new to them and you as parents. Please be kind to yourselves about this. Teachers are going to start to put guidance times on activities to help you, please stick to them as a maximum amount of time to spend on an activity. Also, as a general rule, spend the mornings on Maths and English/RWInc and use the afternoons for the foundation subjects such as History, Geography and Art. We are not expecting children to catch up in the evenings or at the weekend.



Charleton C of E Academy

West Charleton, Kingsbridge,
Devon, TQ7 2AL

T: 01548 531275 **E:** charleton@lapsw.org

W: charleton-lap.co.uk



TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

The teachers are already using their assessment skills to hone the learning for the children in their classes, just like they would during a normal school day. They are working with children who may be finding things difficult, assigning a little more practice of a skill if needed, maybe setting different work for some children or leading some small group sessions for those children who need it.

Live sessions

Last week each class held a live session with their teacher. It was fantastic to see all of the children together albeit virtually. For each session, the link will be posted on the class stream just before the session is due to begin (so please don't worry if you don't see it until this point) and then the children will be admitted to the session by the teacher. We hope this is an enjoyable experience for the children and also one that continues to enable them to feel connected to school.

A huge well done to all of you who have managed to successfully navigate the Google Classroom and Tapestry platforms! Engagement with both the learning and the live sessions with the teachers has been really high. There are still a few glitches but thank you for your patience whilst staff resolve these with you.

Tapestry

Please note that the Tapestry website is experiencing technical issues nationally which they are working quickly to resolve. We will keep you updated on their progress.

Safeguarding

Even though children are being remotely educated whilst at home, we still have a safeguarding responsibility for all of them. If your child is unwell and unable to engage in remote learning, please contact the school office in the usual manner, either by telephone or email to let us know not to expect to see them in their class hangout or engaging with remote learning online.

Friday Afternoons

Following the new guidance, we will now remain open for Educare on a Friday afternoon. However, our teachers still need time for their statutory PPA (planning and preparation time), therefore teachers will not be available to answer emails or queries after 12pm on a Friday. Our wonderful support staff will continue to support the Educare children.

Mental Health and Well being



There are lots of new situations and emotions that children may be experiencing during the lockdown. There may be more conflict at home, increased levels of loneliness and isolation, or even difficulty sleeping. Here are some practical activities to support children and families with the different effects the lockdown may be having on them.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/2035/coronavirus-dealing-with-effects-toolkit-5.pdf>

Brain breaks –Children may find completing school work at home difficult and have trouble focusing. Parents can try out some of these brain break activities with their children to break up a period of concentration.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/2028/brain-breaks.pdf>

Internet Safety

At this time children are necessarily using the internet to support their remote learning. Below is a useful website with advice on children using the internet safely.



<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/holly-grove-primary-school/UploadedDocument/64199a365f4044658e19132bb2e806b4/keeping-young-children-safe-online.pdf>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Standard Assessment Tests (SATs)

You may have heard in the media this week that the Education secretary Gavin Williamson has announced that the SATs tests this year have been cancelled. If you have any questions about this or you would like to discuss this then please contact me at school.

Once again, thank you for everything that you continue to do from remote learning, to learning in school, to adhering to the new restrictions and so much more. All of your efforts really do ensure that you are supporting the national effort and helping to keep our Charleton family safe. It has been heart-warming to see how everyone has pulled together again and it shows what a truly special community you are. Thank you!

Stay safe and look after yourselves.

Miss Coombe
Head of Academy