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Twiss Green Lane  
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Cheshire

Joint Chair of Governors: Mrs A Buchanan/Mrs L Davis

Headteacher: Miss L A McGann, BEd (Hons)

25<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

It has to be said that the last three weeks have probably been the most challenging of my 33 year career as a teacher and school leader. I'm sure many of you will echo that (apart from the 33 years bit of course!).

First of all, the good news! Today, our Y3/Y4 children in Bubble 2 returned to school and so we have, once again, a full complement of Key Worker Group children in school. Many of our staff will also be returning this week (we have had a significant number, either at home ill, with the virus or self-isolating).

There is another piece of good news and that is the number of children and parents who are engaging so well in Home Learning using the Seesaw App. In my last letter to you I mentioned that we would be setting up small wellbeing groups where the children would be able to check in with their teachers via Google Meet on a weekly basis. We have had a few teething problems in setting this up but the plan is that by the end of the week every child at Twiss Green should have had the opportunity to 'touch base' with their class teacher and some of their friends.

It goes without saying, that there are a number of ground rules that need to be established and these are as follows:

### **Pupil expectations**

- Pupils must be appropriately dressed (not in pyjamas!)
- Pupils must be in a shared space if possible (not their bedroom)
- Pupils should be aware that all sessions are recorded by the teacher
- Pupils should follow the expectations set out by the teacher at the beginning of the session
- The school's Behaviour Policy should be upheld at all times
- Make sure on entry your microphone is on mute and throughout the session your camera is on (unless your teacher says otherwise)
- Pupils may ask questions directly to the teacher via their microphone
- Language must be appropriate, including any family members in the background
- Pupils should use the designated **Seesaw** to communicate with their teachers and ask questions if they do not understand/require help within normal school time hours.

### Parent expectations:

- Refrain from interacting with the session
- **Do not take photos/videos or recordings of the session**
- The session link must not be shared with others
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background
- Contact your child's teacher if they have any concerns or alternatively the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (Miss McGann) if the concern is of a safeguarding nature.

We have also produced a child friendly version of the guidelines and this is visible for all to view on your child's Home Learning page on the school's website. Would you please find time to go through this with your child/ren. If you are able to print it off and leave a copy near your home computer then that would be a great help.

### Remote/Blended Learning

Obviously, I started this letter on a very positive note but there are a few issues regarding the home learning that need addressing (this doesn't apply to most of you, honestly).

- We have a handful of parents in Y3 and Y4 who are not using the Seesaw App - it is absolutely essential you have this installed, otherwise your child will be unable to access their learning and submit it to their teachers for marking
- The teachers quite often set a time as to when they would like the work uploaded (would you please ensure that your child is aware of this). Please don't hang on to work for days on end and then upload it, especially on a Friday afternoon - I think you will agree that this an unreasonable expectation
- If the work is submitted at the weekend the teachers are under no obligation to mark it in detail - they will acknowledge that it has been received,

### School dinners

Please bear in mind that hot dinners are available each day for all our Key Worker children and of course these are free for children in YR, Y1 and Y2 as part of the Universal Free School Meal Scheme.

As I said in my last letter; these are tough times and the staff at Twiss Green are working so hard to make it work. We appreciate all the positive messages you have sent us and the support you are providing for your children. Take care...

Kind regards,

LA McGann

