



Eastbank Academy
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Head Teacher
Jonathan Graham

Friday 8 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

REMOTE LEARNING – JANUARY 2021

A very happy New Year to you all. I hope you and your families are safe and well and enjoyed a relaxing festive break.

Following the First Minister's announcement on Monday I want to outline our plans for the weeks ahead. As you are aware, schools will not be operating normally for the month of January, and all learning will take place on-line. It may be that this arrangement will continue beyond January, and I will keep you informed of developments.

Key workers

Children of key workers can attend school from Monday 11 January 2021. They will be supervised by a combination of school staff. In line with Scottish Government advice, if parents are at home, or are working at home, then children should remain at home also. Parents will need to inform us in advance, and a form has already been sent out for those key workers who require their children to attend school next week. Another form will be issued next Wednesday for those who require their children to attend school the following week. This will continue on a rolling basis for the duration of the enhanced level 4 restrictions.

The cafeteria will provide lunch for pupils entitled to free meals but it would be helpful if other pupils could bring a packed lunch.

iPads

Pupils attending school will need to bring their iPads to access learning. In addition, pupils learning at home will need their iPads to access learning materials. Pupils will need their Glow passwords to access Teams, and we will reset all passwords before Monday. You will be contacted about this separately.

Learning and teaching

All teachers will be supporting pupils remotely on Microsoft Teams.

As far as is reasonably possible we will operate our normal timetable for staff and pupils, and will provide on-line teaching in addition to setting tasks. On Monday 11 January at 9:00am all pupils should remotely "attend" their period one class through the class Team. Their class teacher will provide work and will respond to pupil work for the duration of this period (50 minutes). At 9:50am pupils should close this Team and "attend" the Team for period 2. This should continue throughout the day and in each following day. Pupils should take a break at 10:40am until 10:55am and should stop for lunch from 12:35pm until 1:20pm. The "school day" will finish at 3:00/3:50pm.

We will endeavour to provide you with an update on what will be covered in each subject and year group on a weekly basis.

I am required to receive your consent for your child(ren) to engage on live learning and video conferencing. To ensure your child achieves the maximum benefit from remote learning, I'd be grateful if you could complete the attached on-line form, which can be found [here](#).

Attendance and participation

We will be closely monitoring pupil "attendance" at lessons and engagement with on-line learning. Class teachers will email pupils who do not engage in the first instance, and we will contact you if your child's "attendance" or participation continues to cause concern. If your son/daughter is unable to engage with work due to illness or family circumstances, please inform us as soon as possible.

SQA

With regard to pupils in S4/5/6 we still have to gather evidence for SQA. This process will continue when the school begins to operate normally again, but the exact format of evidence gathering cannot be finalised at present. It is vital, however, to stress to pupils that the work they complete at home during January will be assessed at some point and in some format on their return to school.

School website

I am pleased to inform you that we now have a new school website. This website will link directly with the school app and the school Twitter feed. In addition, in the *Resources* section you will find a number of whole-school information that you will find useful. This website will update regularly and, if you do not use Twitter, you can keep up to date by checking the *News* section on the website.

Our new Website can be found at: <http://eastbankacademy.schoolwebsite.scot>

Family learning

Our Family Learning team have been working hard for a number of months to provide resources and support for parents to enable them to work with children at home. These resources have been published previously, but can be found in the Family Learning section of our website (under *Resources*), or [here](#).

I realise that lockdown, and home learning, places a great deal of pressure on everyone, especially parents who are working at home whilst trying to ensure their children progress with school work. I would much prefer that we were not in this position and everyone could attend school as normal. However, it is important that parents ensure that young people engage with learning at home.

Home-school communication

We will continue to communicate regularly with you as normal, with the school app being the principal means of school to parent communication. The school office will remain open. In addition, please see below contact details for our Pastoral Care teachers and Year Heads. Please contact the appropriate member of staff if you have any concerns about your child's education or care and welfare.

ICT info - Software update

If Pupils have not used their iPad in the last few weeks there will be a software update that needs to be undertaken to access the internet and apps efficiently. To do this, pupils should go into settings and select the General tab from the options on the left-hand side of the menu. Once selected pupils should then select software update and if required there will be a prompt to undertake the update. Once the update has completed pupils will need to select download/install at which point the iPad will reboot / restart. Once restarted all apps and internet access should be available.

ICT info - Proxy

If pupils receive a prompt on their iPad entitled "Proxy" this is asking them to enter the username and password that they use to log on to school desktop computers. Pupils should enter these details and the prompt will disappear, allowing the iPad to be used as normal. If pupils have forgotten their username or password then please contact the school directly for support with this.

And finally, for now

There will be further communication from me in early course regarding other aspects of the work of the school. However, I have deliberately focused on the pressing matters related to remote learning for now. I hope that you and your families remain safe and well, both physically and mentally, at these difficult times. We will continue to support one another, and I remain hopeful that we can look forward to a more positive 2021 in the not too distant future.

Yours faithfully



Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

PRINCIPAL TEACHERS OF PASTORAL CARE

Burns House	Ms McAulay	Gw10mcaulaykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Livingstone House	Mrs Miller	Gw10millermaria1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Somerville House	Mr Pert	Gw10pertmaurice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Telford House	Ms Morrison	Gw10morrisonlisa@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Dalziel House	Ms Looker	gw16lookerlois@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

YEAR HEADS

First Year	Mrs Gray	Gw18grayelizabeth@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Second Year	Mrs Brooks	Gw10brooksanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Third and Fourth Year	Mr Dunsmore	Gw07dunsmoregavin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Fifth and Sixth Year	Mr Millar	Gw10millargreig@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk