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THE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP

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Friday 8th January 2021

Guide to Home Learning

Dear Parents,

I am writing to give you some more information about the expectations we have received from the government concerning children's home learning and how we are working hard to support our children.

The expectation from the government is that children require to be taught new concepts and engage with learning that is new to them. In order to facilitate this, we have used resources from the Oak National Academy extensively, which is an online classroom made by teachers, for teachers in response to the need for home learning provision in the first Lockdown. It contains free, high-quality video lessons planned and delivered by teachers with accompanying activities for each lesson.

From spring week 2, we have adapted the Oak National Academy resources (recommended by the DfE) to reflect the curriculum that would be taught in school. We are hoping for the provision of some live work delivered by TVP teachers, but this is currently experimental, so do keep an eye on the weekly newsletters for more information.

We are following the same planning in school. You will see on the home learning sheets that we are not expecting huge amounts of photographing and sending work in, but checking-in with your child at the end of the day to review the work they have completed and giving them encouragement for the progress they have made is recommended. We are sending out a special pack for the children through the post with new books for recording in and some other things to help them learn; I have also written a letter to the children that will be in their package for them. Please help them read it; maybe they could read it to you as part of their daily reading? 😊

What we would ask is that parents complete the log at the end of the instruction sheets with ticks to show that the children have completed the work. We would also like the children to add comments to the log every week and for parents to feed back. Cut and paste this grid and the comments into and email to send to us. The class teachers are aiming to respond weekly to the children's work, comments and your comments via the admin teams. Since both

schools are open, this time we would like you to respond to your child's school and they will forward the messages accordingly. We do want you all to be mindful of the mental well-being of both yourselves and your children whilst schools have to remain closed, so please do encourage your child to take regular breaks, play games, get fresh air and relax as well as monitoring the amount of time they spend in front of a screen.

For those with poor connectivity, there is an information sheet also being sent out that details special deals (free) that will temporarily increase phone data allowances with some companies, so please ensure you read that letter too. The key is to see the teaching videos and then the work is logical; it is also useful to pause the video to check learning. Some of the videos require a written response, which can be noted in their new lined books from the book packs. Watching the teaching videos with your child may help you support your child with their learning in order to help reduce any potential misunderstandings. If your child is learning on a device that is usually used by an adult, please check the filters and settings at home before allowing your child access to the Internet. It may well be advisable to directly supervise your child where possible (particularly for younger learners).

We have also produced a mini "crib sheet" for both the French on-line learning and the IT programme called "Scratch". Please see these help sheets on our website - we are also sending these out to you.

Please can you let the school know if your child is ill and unable to complete their home learning; this includes COVID infection.

We do appreciate how challenging this time is for all our parents, those families at home and those in critical worker roles and we appreciate your support and the supreme effort you need to make. We are also trying our hardest for you all.

If you have any further questions about home learning, please email either school office and we will do our best to answer any queries you have.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Eveleigh
Executive Head Teacher