8th January 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing with a quick update for our blended learning provision that will launch on Monday 11th January for pupils who will be remote learning at home.

This approach will be different from the last Lockdown as the provision will be consistent with the quality first curriculum, teaching and learning offer in school. One of the main differences that will feature this time, is the face to face aspect of remote learning.

Mr Spalding, our primary phase assistant principal and Medeshamstede Learning Centre leader, has created our first weekly menu for remote learning. The autism friendly presentation and delivery of the menu is designed to enable our visual learners to engage and access content easily and with a developing degree of independence over time.

The structure of each session will follow a simple format that learners will become more familiar with over the coming weeks. Some sessions will be pre-recorded for you to access at a convenient time when your child is ready to learn. We will begin with short sessions and build upon these as children adjust to remote learning. There is no expectation for your child to participate in every session. Each child will engage differently.

On Monday morning your class teacher will email you the digital 'menu' that is presented visually as a schedule for the week. From the menu you can click and select with your child from the choices offered. By clicking on the activity or subject, the link will take you to the learning session on the digital platform.

As teachers develop their skills and confidence to present and deliver in this way, we will enhance the offer building to a broader, engaging and rich curriculum offer. The menu of activities also incorporates communication and language development across the curriculum. Within the menu there will be opportunities for class group sessions for pupils to interact with their class peers, teacher and support staff.

The initial menu is designed for semi-formal stage learners in key stages 1-3. Our pre-formal learners are in school as usual. Formal learners, who are learning remotely in key stage 4, have a bespoke offer pertinent to their exam subjects, EHCP provision and preparation for adulthood skills development.

Teachers will contact parents at least weekly to check in and gain feedback, answer any questions and evaluate that the remote provision is meeting the needs of your child.

We will be sending out a short parental feedback survey later in the week to assist us in refining and improving the system and curriculum activities as we progress.

If you answered our survey or have contacted us because your child does not have access to a laptop at home, our digital champion, Mr Eames, has organised that one should be available to you very soon.

I hope you have a restful weekend and please do continue to contact school with any questions or feedback. Warm regards,

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Mrs Laura Ives (Principal)