



Shortlanesend School

Newsletter



15th January 2021

Spring Term

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope that you and your families are all safe and well.

School Update

This week has seen further high levels of engagement with our remote learning, despite a few technical issues outside of our control; including the whole Tapestry network crashing across the county on Monday! Thank you for your patience and understanding through these 'hitches'.

Below is the link to our home learning page which contains links to videos which aim to troubleshoot logging on and accessing the online learning platforms. There are also recorded stories from staff and other usual links.

[Welcome to Shortlanesend School \(eschools.co.uk\)](https://eschools.co.uk)

There is a scheme to check if you qualify for free extra data if you are using your mobile contract to access the online aspects of remote learning. Please click on the link below and Aspire will apply on your behalf.

[Request Mobile Data Allowance Increase To Support Home Learning \(office.com\)](https://office.com)

Our tracking system is constantly monitored and staff have been very effective this week in phoning promptly any family they have not had contact with in school or through remote learning to check if any help can be offered and issues sorted.

This week the school has purchased access to 1000 online books through a subscription to MyOn. Mrs Ashley, ever keen to promote reading, will be attending training sessions next week, and will hopefully be in a position to explain how your child can access these at home soon.

Please remember that "remote" learning means a mix of screen, off screen and outside activities. Also, we are here and available should you need any help or advice, or just to chat. We fully understand that even though we are sailing through the current stormy situation in different boats we all have similar anxieties, pressures and worries.

The school remains open to key workers and vulnerable children. We are currently at full capacity for this provision, and echo the strong government and local authority message **that this service is only to be used by parents when there is no other alternative for your child to be home.** If you are working from home, the safest place for your child is there, with you.

Thank you to those parents who were able to negotiate changes to their work pattern with their employer this week and promptly informed the school they no longer needed a booked place. This was greatly appreciated.

Our school foyer contains a daily stocked selection of exercise books and basic stationery for collection for any family who need it. Please use the hand gel and collect as needed.

You can communicate with staff through Google Classroom and Tapestry. We ask you to be mindful about times of communication, and expectations for response times, especially our of normal school hours.

Inquiries to the school can still be made through the phone number or the hello@shortlanesend.org.uk email address.

FSM Vouchers

For those families entitled to FSM (not including those families who qualify for universal FSM) and not using the Key Worker and Vulnerable Child in school provision more than three times in a week, the vouchers should arrive next week to cover the first two weeks of this term.

Thank you again for all your understanding concerning the current situation. Staff continue to appreciate the positive responses and messages they have received through their interactions with you and your children.

Please, have a restful weekend and stay safe and well.