



Grampian Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs. M. Murfin



National 'Outstanding Winner'
21st Century Learning Alliance Award

Monday 11th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Sadly, we haven't been able to see everyone since school finished on Thursday 17th December. We hope everyone was able to enjoy the Christmas period safely.

Although we are missing having everyone in school, it has been fantastic to see so many children accessing our daily teaching through Microsoft Teams (Year 2 – Year 6), Seesaw and Tapestry (Year 1, Reception & Nursery) and then submitting learning through the relevant platform. Class teachers and I are so very grateful for the support you are providing to the children during this difficult time. With learning already disrupted through the first lockdown, we are committed to ensuring that children do not miss out on further learning through this period of lockdown. By working together, we can ensure the children continue to learn but also support their emotional wellbeing by remaining connected to their teachers and peers.

Critical worker and vulnerable pupils

In order to keep the wider community, staff and pupils in school safe, we are maintaining low numbers of critical worker and vulnerable children. It is important that whilst prioritising the children's education school must play their part in reducing the rate of transmission and the pressure on our NHS at this time. The updated guidance to schools makes it clear that parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can. We have therefore asked all our critical worker families to ensure that they have investigated all possible alternatives to their children having to attend school.

Remote Education

Whether the children are learning remotely from home, or accessing in-school provision as critical worker families or vulnerable children, the learning is identical.

Remote Education Plans for Year 2 to Year 6 have been made available on our online platforms, our social media platform and the school website. We hope that these provide parents and carers with clarity about the learning your child is expected to engage with each day. The timetable for the children in school is identical.

Wherever possible, we ask that the children login to the timetabled sessions of live teaching. However, we recognise, that this might not always be possible, particularly when there are a number of children at home accessing remote learning and may well be sharing a device. We encourage each family to find a timetable that suits them. Where pupils are unable to make the live sessions, they will be able to access the recording from the session through their Microsoft Teams account. It is really important that the children follow the sequence of learning for each subject as teachers will have planned this carefully i.e. the children shouldn't complete Wednesday's maths lesson before completing Monday and Tuesday.

As we know our younger learners, in Nursery, Reception & Year 1, require much more adult support when working remotely, we have not allocated specific timings in order to support our families during this time. The children's daily teaching and learning is available through Tapestry (for Nursery and Reception) and Seesaw (Year 1). As with the older children, we encourage our families to set a daily routine that works for your circumstances but ensures that the daily learning is completed. The learning

sequence is really important to the children's learning so please ensure the children follow the sequence set by their teacher – completing Monday's phonics lesson before Tuesday etc.

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We encourage all children to upload their work to the online platform so that their teachers are able to review what they have done and provide feedback. Please don't worry about having to upload everything at the same time or on the same day. As and when you are able to, please make it visible to the class teachers.

Remote Education support

Parents and carers should note that our [Remote Education Policy](#) is available on the school website and a hard copy can be requested from the school office.

Our [Remote Education Agreement](#) has been updated to reflect the use of live webcams to support our ability to teaching pupils at home. This has been made available on the school website and we will be putting it on our remote learning platforms. Where school undertake a home visit, for example to deliver a food parcel, we will be asking parents and carers to sign a copy of this agreement.

Our [Online safety at home during Covid-19 for parents and students](#) is available on the school website to ensure that everyone accesses the internet safely during this time.

These documents can be found in the policies area of the school website.

Remember:

We are here to help, so please keep reaching out to us if you require any support during this time. Our admin team have become very skilled in coaching parents and carers through any access difficulties. They will also share messages with class teachers as relevant. Mrs Stevens, our Safeguarding Officer, can help parents and carers with any additional support that might be required during these challenging times.

We are in this together and we will come through this stronger than ever before.

Your sincerely,

Mrs. Murfin
Headteacher

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