

# ST ANDREW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) INFANT SCHOOL

In Partnership with St Andrew's CE (VA) Infant School, St. Martin's Church, the Diocese of Leeds and Calderdale Council

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6 January 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Following the Government's announcement on Monday night that all schools were to close to the majority of pupils and move to home learning until February half term, I wanted to write to you all to confirm the learning plan for our pupils at St. Andrew's CE (VA) Infant School.

## Critical Workers and Vulnerable Children

Thank you to all of you who responded to our questionnaires sent out yesterday asking whether you had Critical Worker status. As it stands, we continue to accommodate a third of our children on site. We are, and continue to be, here for all our St Andrew's pupils and their families. A separate letter has been sent to Critical Worker families to confirm that they have a place in school.

## Home Learning

All of our pupils have been set up on Purple Mash. Pupils have had plenty of opportunities in school to go on Purple Mash and learn how to access and submit work.

Our teachers will submit a daily English, mathematics and foundation subject lesson onto Purple Mash. There is a class blog for children and staff to chat through. There will often be a short video from the teacher or another site such as White Rose Maths, The Oak Academy or a phonics video that will provide input to the lesson. There may be times when your child needs to watch these videos again to support their learning. It would be useful for pupils to sit with their exercise book (provided by school) in front of them during this time. Please use the email or blog to speak to your class teacher if your child needs more support.

Children can submit their completed work via Purple Mash. If your child has hand written a task, completed work can also be submitted via the e-mails listed below. A photograph of the work can be taken and e-mailed to the class teacher. Either way, the class teacher will provide feedback to the pupils in a timely manner. Please understand that most of the teachers are also teaching full time in the classroom. Parents can also send e-mails to class teachers via the e-mails listed below if they have any questions or concerns around their child's home learning.

When children are working on Purple Mash please note that work is set for all children in the year group and not necessarily by your child's class teacher. This is because your child's class teacher may be in the classroom with other pupils.



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We have not stated a set time for when the lessons have to be viewed or completed. This is to allow those parents who are working from home or who have more than one child the opportunity to log onto Purple Mash at a time which is convenient to them. We absolutely understand that not all tasks set will be completed as lots of our families have very different circumstances. We ask our families to try their best to complete the work set but to ensure that you and your child's mental health is a priority. Let us know if you are struggling and we will do our best to help you in any way we can.

Staff will be conducting weekly phone calls to our families who are working from home. There may be times when you receive calls from a withheld number so please keep this in mind.

Teachers spent a lot of time yesterday preparing home learning packs for those working from home. These are now available to pick up from the school office. The work in these packs should support those pupils who prefer to work on paper or are finding Purple Mash difficult to use.

You can contact your child's class teacher via these e-mails:

[reception@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:reception@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk)

[year1@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:year1@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk)

[year2@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:year2@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk)

Year 2 pupils are encouraged to continue to quiz on Accelerated Reader at home.

Reading daily will really help pupils with the continuity of learning. We have provided additional reading books in their home learning packs (available to collect from the office). Pupils can also log on Oxford Owls for online books.

#### Free School Meals

We are currently awaiting further information from the government as to how we are to support those families who are at home and entitled to free school meals. We will be in touch as soon as possible with more information regarding this. If you are struggling and need support now then please let us know and we will get some food to you as soon as possible.

The government's most recent guidance on the latest lockdown can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Should you require any further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

*J. Swallow*

**Mrs Jo Swallow**  
Head of School



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