



St George's Church of England Primary School
Pound Lane, Semington, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 6LP

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19/03/2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

So the unprecedented has happened and schools close their doors for the foreseeable future. Currently, I have no further guidance regarding the children of key workers and vulnerable children, but I can assure you that the powers that be within the federation are meeting now regarding this. As soon as I have further details, I will be in touch. Thank you for your patience with this.

The finishing touches are being put on the packs that will be ready to go home at the end of the day tomorrow. For children who are still here (we are down to 70% attendance today!) they will be given to them to bring home. For all others, please follow this guidance:

- If your family are not in self-isolation then please come to school between 3:00 and 4:00 to collect the pack. Otherwise confirm with us who you have arranged to collect your pack.
- If your family are in isolation, please confirm with us who will be collecting the pack.

If there are still packs at school after this period uncollected, we will endeavour to hand deliver them to your house but obviously it is very helpful to us if the instances of us needing to do this are reduced.

There has been a huge take up of membership to the [Facebook home learning page](#) that I set up yesterday – already 59 have joined, and it is lovely to see everyone sharing ideas. Hopefully you will be able to inspire each other along the way.

When the packs are sent out, we will also email you further details of how home learning will work and include some log in details for particular websites to which we have subscriptions. When you receive these details, please attempt a log-on straight away and let us know if there are any issues so we can rectify these sooner rather than later. Along with the packs being sent home, each teacher will provide some advice and suggested daily and weekly activities. It is very hard for us to meet everyone's needs in this, as some of you will prefer to freestyle it a bit more and some will prefer structure. I am attaching with this letter, a possible timetable that you could use as a starting point but adjust to suit the needs and interests of your children. There are other example doing the rounds on social media as well – pick one that suits you and your children.

It is impossible for us to replicate the teaching and learning that the children receive in the classroom, for a myriad of reasons, all of which I am sure you are aware. My preference would



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actually be for you and your children to do plenty of those activities that we CAN'T do so easily at school – all those practical activities like den building, cooking, treasure hunts, meditation, playing games etc. (please inspire others with pictures and suggestion on the home learning page.) I would ask also that the school's values are lived out in our actions going forward and that the values of generosity and respect shine through as we all take the opportunity to help those who will undoubtedly find this situation difficult to cope with. Please share those examples on the page too.

This is a significant event in our lives, never mind the children's. How much better will it be, if in years to come, we can look back on this time and remember a community coming together in support of each other and a time spent engaged in fun and meaningful activities with our families.

Finally, we are all in uncharted territory, and it is important that we recognise this and that we are sympathetic towards each other and show the value of tolerance as we make our way through the unknown – together. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the offers of help we have received, all the kind words of support that have been sent in and your continued patience in the situation. During this challenging time, communication is extremely important to all of us. Please could you direct all COVID-19 questions to the live chat facility on the [school website](#). You can activate this by clicking the ? in the bottom left of the screen. Thank you for your co-operation in this.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J.L. Chalk".

Jackie Chalk