

Dear parent/carer,

I hope that you and your families are well during these unprecedented times. We are working hard as a staff body to continue to provide an education for all the children in our care and we wholeheartedly appreciate all the support and kind words we have been given from you as parents/carers.

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place so that any child who cannot attend school because of COVID-19 does not miss out on their learning. We have been using SMHW since the first lockdown began and we have appreciated the feedback from parents and pupils. We are going to add to the provision we have in place already to improve it further following the recent news about the lockdown and I am writing to you to ensure you are aware of the adaptations.

Our remote learning plan

Our remote learning plan was originally made and has now been further adapted with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school.

A summary of our remote learning plan is below and we will be continuing to cover the national curriculum with our students. Please use this and the attached FAQ and user guides to ensure you are fully informed regarding the home learning plan and expectations.

Remote Learning Plan

- 5 full lessons will be set every day for your child following their normal timetable.
- Pupils can complete this work at their own pace, but the required tasks must be completed weekly.
- Lessons will have pre-recorded voiceovers from your child's classroom teacher.
- Learning resources will be included, such as differentiated worksheets and tasks as well as quizzes, assessments and revision.
- Pupils will have weekly contact with their classroom teachers, in the form of marked work, such as quizzes and feedback on tasks.
- Pupils will receive feedback on a weekly basis and our teachers will be available for pupils to communicate with them via SMHW messaging throughout the school day.

Pre-recorded lessons

- Many schools, including ourselves, are choosing not to do live lessons for safeguarding purposes. This protects your child and our staff member.
- We are able to better monitor pupils accessing the work doing pre-recorded lessons - if we were to complete live lessons, pupils could log in to the lesson and not complete work and as we would not have cameras on, we would not be able to monitor engagement.
- Pupils may not be available at the specific time of the lesson – parents and families have a different routine that may have to work around their own job and access to shared laptops or internet access.
- Using pre-recorded PowerPoints mean our pupils can do their tasks and learning at their own pace and recap if they are struggling.
- Our pupils will hear their classroom teacher's voice and will be able to contact their classroom teacher via SMHW.

What you'll need at home

- Pupils will need a device that can access the internet, such as a laptop, desktop computer, tablet or smartphone
- Paper/exercise books and a pen will also be needed.
- We would also recommend a quiet space where your child can work without interruption

If your child does not have any of the above, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can help support you.

What we expect from your child

It's important that your child engages with home learning on a weekly basis and keeps to their timetable to prevent falling behind or feeling overwhelmed

If they aren't engaging with the learning, we'll use the following strategies to provide additional support:

- Phone call home
- Meetings with yourself, your child and their head of year.
- Increased feedback

What you can do to help

We appreciate that this situation it may present some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

We don't expect you to watch your child all day, and we wouldn't expect parents/carers to get involved in remote lessons in place of our teachers – our teachers are continuing to work hard to support your child and provide high quality education and resources. But, it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what work they've done.

Our top tips:

- Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed for the start of the school day, and to keep to their timetable – creating and sticking to a routine is really important during this lockdown period.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you're having any difficulties with remote learning, or if you have any questions. You can contact SMHW@burnleyhigh.com with any queries you may have, but please ensure you read the FAQs and user guide before doing so.

Thank you for your continued support during these incredibly difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Starkey

Deputy Headteacher