



# Goodyers End Primary School

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Dear parents/carers

I was so disappointed to hear that schools were to close due to the third lockdown. Of course, I understand the reasons behind it; everyone's safety is of utmost importance. Having the children in school learning alongside their peers with their teacher is so important and the best way for children to be educated. However, as a nation we are being asked to do our bit to support the country whilst it fights the virus and so for now we must adjust to these new ways.

Firstly, can I say a big thank you to you all for supporting your children in the last few days; with the 12 hours' notice we were all given to move to remote learning, I think everyone has done incredibly well to get their child logged into Teams and taking part in the lessons. I fully appreciate that all family circumstances are different; for those of you working full time whilst supporting their child with home learning it is very challenging. Please be kind to yourselves and do what is manageable for you as a family. We will do everything we can to support you in accessing the live lessons, and as a minimum if that's all you can manage, at least your child is still having interaction with their class teacher and their friends. Please do not feel that must complete everything that is assigned – we have catered for a range of circumstances. We do just ask that your child attend the live lessons as much as practicably possible.

Secondly, a thank you for all the messages of support that have either come via the office or through class teachers. Your appreciation and understanding of what the staff have had to move to, with such little notice is very uplifting. None of this situation is ideal but hearing your comments of thanks and enjoyment of the learning is extremely heartening for the staff.

As we move into the first full week of online learning the DFE issued guidance last night on what remote learning should look like:

***The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and will include both recorded or live direct teaching time and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently.***

We have taken the decision to provide live lessons with the teachers for three sessions a day as we think it is important to be receiving teaching from their own teacher. There is then designated independent learning time for the children to apply their understanding from the lesson, just as they would be doing in class. As well as that there are skill-based tasks essential to children's development e.g. handwriting, spelling, times tables, reading etc. We are also very mindful of the 'screen time' for children.



As well as supporting children learning remotely, staff are also supporting the key worker and vulnerable children at school. The numbers have doubled since the last lock down, so all staff are fully engaged with learning in some capacity at all times. Communication through class dojo and Teams is the best means of communication with your child's class teacher but bear in mind they may not be able to respond immediately. The office is fully open as well should you have any queries that they can support with.

Once again, remember in whatever capacity you are supporting your children you are doing a great job. This isn't easy for anyone so be kind to yourselves. Remember we are all in this together, and working together, to support each other at such a challenging time will help us all get to the other side.

Stay safe and take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Rees', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Rees  
Headteacher