



## Contingency Plan: Blended Learning at High Ham

We are using the term 'blended learning' to refer to the work that children complete at home as well as at school as part of their education.

Should our school or a bubble go into lockdown, we will provide work for the children on Google Classroom. There is already some work on there 'ready to go' and this is also posted in the class twitter feed weekly (on the homework list). The children also have their CGP books. In addition, Ash and Willow have been given a reading book to help support their learning too.

Therefore, if your child is away from school for any COVID reason (as long as they are well enough) they need to log onto Google Classroom and follow the class teacher's instructions.

Thank you to the 90% of families who responded to our blended learning questionnaire last week and congratulations to both Maple and Willow who got 100% of responses. (Ash (93%), Cedar (86%), Elm (29%), Maple (100%), Oak (81%) and Willow (100%)). The prize of the smelly stickers went to Willow as they were first to reach a full class.

Your comments are extremely useful and will be helpful to the teachers as they plan the way forward on their INSET days this week. Thank you for taking the time to share your views with us, we really do appreciate it.

It is clear from our initial findings that we would not be able to meet all of your requests. For example, for every parent who requests a flexible day with a variety of tasks (practical as well as computer based to be completed at different times of the day) another requests lessons to be on the computer with the child to stay there all day. Our survey shows you are having to manage a range of needs such as working, younger siblings, shared computer use, lack of a strong internet connection etc. The great thing about your survey responses is that each class teacher will be able to look at what the most children in their class are able to achieve and then tailor their learning.

Thank you as well to the parent who added some humour into my data collection exercise – when asked 'how could we help?' the response of 'keeping the pubs open!' made me chuckle.

Regarding future lockdowns, I can tell from the form parents/carers are concerned. However, please can I reassure you that at the moment (3pm 19/10/20) there are no plans for a national/local lockdown. However, there is the possibility of a bubble closing should there be a COVID case. In this case we would be looking at 14 days away from 'in school' education. If children continue to use both their CGP books and GC as part of their regular homework activities, they will be well set up to continue their learning. Encouraging them now to take part in their homework activities is the best preparation you can give them for a lockdown.

Finally, in response to some of your comments; last time we need to remember that things were very different. We did not have a full complement of staff as we had staff juggling several GCs and teaching in school. As soon as R, 1 and 6 returned all our teachers were engaged at school and 'at home' work had to be supported by our TAs, who did a great job. From this term onwards, should a bubble close, there will not be any provision at school for key workers/vulnerable pupils of that bubble. This means the teacher and TA for that class will be focusing solely on the education of their class and will be available online at different points throughout the day. If the staff become unwell we would still be able to cover the GC. Should the whole school need to close, I do not know if I would be asked to provide KW/VP 'in school' education. If we did, we would balance the home and school learning the best we could with the staff we have available.

As always, please keep an eye on class twitter feeds as well as the school twitter feed to keep up to date.

**In school time, please let the office know if your child is unwell or you are taking them for a test. As soon as you get the results back, please let us know. Should you need to notify us of COVID TEST results out of school hours, please email [highhamcovidresults@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:highhamcovidresults@educ.somerset.gov.uk) stating your child's name/class and the details.**