

Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

A Church of England School



Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

The first two weeks of home learning have certainly been a steep learning curve for all us. I want to begin by thanking you all for your support during this time. I would also like to thank those of you who have given us feedback about your experiences of home learning. None of us have ever experienced anything quite like this before, and your comments have been welcomed.

Overall, the feedback we have received has been very positive. Many of you have told us that the work you have received has helped your children to learn, and has helped you to create structured, varied and enjoyable environments for your children. We know, though, that sometimes the amount of work we have set has felt overwhelming for some families. One of the patterns that is emerging across the country is that, with so many demands on parents' time, it is often difficult to help children to do more than two hours of work in a home learning context.

We will be making some changes to the way we set home learning tasks to take account of this feedback. We want to continue to make sure you have all of the resources you need to help you support your children, but we do not want anybody to feel overwhelmed or anxious about the work we are providing. Therefore, we will continue to set work regularly in every subject, but most of this work will be clearly identified as optional, and you are able to ask your children to do as much or as little of this work as suits their needs.

In addition to this, each subject will identify no more than one piece of work in a five-week period that they will ask children to submit for assessment, and they will provide some guidance on how to complete this work. Our hope is that all children will be able to complete this work. This will mean we can continue to see how children are progressing and offer further advice about next steps without, I hope, overwhelming children with a large amount of work we have to submit.

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Teachers will continue to communicate with their classes via **Show My Homework** but there is no expectation or requirement that children are logged on, looking at work for a particular subject, at any particular time. We will leave it to families to plan the best times and ways of working for their children.

I want to emphasise that the work we set is there to support you at home and the last thing we want to do is create pressure for you. Our children are having very different reactions to the pandemic and the lockdown. Some are keen to work as much as possible; some are finding it difficult to concentrate. Of course, we hope that all children complete the assessed work we set but you know what your child/ren need and you are best placed to judge how to balance the work available with their other needs. If we see that some children have not completed assessed work we will make contact, and that will be only to ask if there is anything else we can do to support you.

When we re-open we will work hard to see where all of the children are, and we will do everything we need to do to help them catch up on anything they have missed. In the meantime, we will continue to set work to support you at home with your children, and ask you to get in touch with us if there is anything we can offer to help you.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alan Wilkinson (Principal)

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