



## ABBEY PARK SCHOOL

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### Return to School - Teaching and Learning Update

Having been back at school for a week now we have been very impressed by the mature response of the pupils to all of the new systems that we now have in place. We have needed to make some changes and I would like to alert you to these.

1. **Feedback** – Staff are providing feedback to pupils but this will be at key points in the term. Due to limiting the transfer of the virus, staff are not physically touching pupil books for 72 hours after they have been used. This means that there will be a lot of verbal feedback and assessment in lessons, pupils will be completing teacher led green pen tasks throughout lessons as well as self and peer assessment. We are also requesting that pupil exercise books remain in school – this again is to reduce transfer and risk. Departments are developing homework and revision tasks with key information to support both yourself and your child to allow you to have content to refer to when supporting your child's home learning tasks.
2. **Homework** – As books are not transferable, all homework will be set online on Show My Homework with an electronic submission. This will allow the teacher to then electronically feedback to the pupils using this facility. We are continuing to review and develop our online technologies and so we will continue to use My Maths and other platforms but all tasks will be recorded on Show My Homework to allow you and us to monitor home learning tasks.
3. **Private Reading** – Literacy and Articulacy is a priority for the school and we continue to seek to develop more independent readers and pupils who thrive on a passion for reading. Reading benefits pupil confidence, development of vocabulary, spelling and creativity of thought. At the start of lessons pupils are being asked to enter the classrooms and start with private reading. Please ensure that your child comes to school with an appropriate reading book – fiction or non-fiction. Attached to this letter are some current reading recommendations that we would endorse for KS3 and KS4.
4. **Equipment** – As pupils and staff are not allowed to share equipment it is essential that pupils are fully equipped for lessons. As stated in the pupil planner the equipment required is:
  - Pupil Planner (This has been provided by the school)



Executive Principal:  
Operational Principal:  
Vice Principal:

Mr C Zimmerman  
Mr J Young  
Mrs L Hunter

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- Pencil case containing – Pen Black and Blue x2, Whiteboard Pen, Pencil x 2, Ruler, Rubber, Pencil Sharpener, Coloured Pencils, Pen Green (for noting feedback), Highlighter Pens, Glue Stick, Calculator, Pair of Compasses, Protractor, Dictionary, Pair of Headphones, Reading Book, Plain Face Mask.
5. **Home Access Review** - Part of our Covid 19 advance planning we are auditing all pupils' current access to ICT. In the case of further restrictions being brought in, we may need to teach some pupils remotely for a short period of time, so it is important for us to know who doesn't currently have access to a digital device that is suitable to complete work on. If a child in your household does not have access to their own digital device in order to complete work, then please let us know by emailing [russellj@abbeyparkschool.org.uk](mailto:russellj@abbeyparkschool.org.uk). Please use the numbers below to let us know the nature of the problem. If you have more than one child at the school and it applies to them both please make that clear in your reply. If there is no problem with access in your household then you do not need to do anything.
- 1) They have no access to a digital device
  - 2) The only digital device they have access to is a smartphone
  - 3) They have access to a single household device, but this is being shared with more than one other family member.
  - 4) There is no fixed broadband connection at home.

A prompt response to this will be very helpful for our planning. The absolute deadline for replies is September 18th 2020.

Thank you for all your continued support in your child's learning journey. We will keep updating you as and when more developments are made to our processes of working.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Hunter  
Vice Principal  
Abbey Park School



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