

Remote Learning at Castle View during the 2021 Lockdown

Remote learning

Everyone at Castle View is feeling very frustrated that children are unable to be in school with us at the moment. We are all working hard to ensure that your children can continue to learn at home until we are able to welcome them back to school.



Contacting you by phone

Until it is safe to open again, teachers and teaching assistants will phone you on a regular basis to see how you and your family are, offer advice and encouragement and provide children with feedback about their remote learning. Staff may be using their personal phones when they are working from home, so please answer any 'number withheld' calls – it might be us trying to contact you!

How children will be learning during lockdown

During the autumn term we sent home stationary and work packs to all children to support individuals who might have had to self-isolate. In the first week of lockdown, we also delivered work packs to children as we recognise that many households do not have laptops or tablets. Those of you who do not have laptops or tablets, but have internet access on your mobile phones can visit our website to see the remote learning activities and use the stationary packs and worksheet packs to complete the tasks.

Seesaw app to support home learning

We have invested in a new online learning platform which will offer children the opportunity to complete their learning in a variety of different ways and get feedback from their teacher regularly. This online platform is called Seesaw and can be accessed easily from laptops, tablets and phones. It is free for parents to use and will enable children to access videos, voice recordings and activities, which have been set and / or created by their class teacher. Children will submit their work directly to their class teacher / teaching assistant in the app, who can then mark and provide appropriate feedback, either through written comments or sound recordings.



Your child's teacher will phone you this week to talk about the benefits of using Seesaw, and to ask for your permission for your child to use it. We aim to start using it on Monday and teachers are already videoing themselves and preparing fun and exciting learning tasks!

Please look out for emails from school containing passwords.

If parents agree to their children using the Seesaw app, please email the child's teacher the following message:

I give my permission for my child to use the Seesaw app to support remote learning at Castle View Primary School.

Lots of the resources we will be using in Seesaw have been taken from the Oak Academy website which is free to use and doesn't require any usernames or passwords. Oak is a

government funded website resource which has been created to support schools so they can offer high quality remote learning to children who are isolating and their lessons can be accessed on any device without the need for separate login details.

If you do not have access to a tablet or laptop, please email me (head@castleview.school) and we will do our best to prioritise the limited number of devices we have available in school to the families who are most in need. These devices will be loaned, not given, to children. Parents will have to sign an agreement and the devices must be returned to school when the children return. Please contact Mrs Holden in the office (bursar@castleview.school) if you are struggling with internet access.

Feedback from teachers

Your child's class teacher and teaching assistant will monitor submitted work and provide appropriate feedback between 9am and 4pm. If using Seesaw, the feedback may be written or even a voice recording! Please make sure you check your work for errors, such as capital letters, common spelling mistakes, sentence structure, calculations are correct etc. before submitting it.

Physical activity and breaks

Physical activity helps to burn off energy and refresh the brain, ready for learning. Please build plenty of rest breaks and physical activity into your day. The government recommends that every child takes part in at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day – this can be spread throughout the day. Why not search for the Joe Wickes daily PE lessons on YouTube, use ideas from Lancashire School Games (link below) or make up your own exercise or dance routine?

<https://lancashireschoolgames.co.uk/previous-week/>

Keep working hard on your home learning, stay at home and stay safe everyone!
We look forward to seeing you back at school very soon.

Best wishes

C. Bright

Is lockdown making you worried or sad?

Family finding it tough?
Nervous about going back to school?
There's somewhere safe to get help and support.

Call us free on 0800 157 7015
We're there 9am-9pm Monday to Friday, and 10am-6pm at weekends.

Or visit barnardos.org.uk/c19



Struggling to afford food and other essential items due to financial hardship caused by Covid-19?



Support available for short-term living costs such as **food, gas and electric, school uniforms** and essential household appliances.

To be eligible for the scheme you must be:

- a resident of the Lancaster City Council district and aged 16 years or over
- on a low income or in receipt of one of the following benefits: Universal Credit, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment Support Allowance, Income Support or Pension Credit

Call (01524) 582000 Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm