



# Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr T Eccles / Assistant Headteacher: Mrs S Collings

11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a good weekend and a good day today. I have caught up with nearly all of the teachers today to see how the blended (remote) learning is going.

I am aware of some teething issues with Tapestry, it appears to have crashed nationally. We are trying to upload some of the work for Reception Class on to our website and will let you know once it has been done.

I understand that there are also some glitches in OneNote around PowerPoint and PDF's which are very frustrating.

Please continue to email your child's class teacher about your experiences of our blended learning and we will continue to modify and adapt the resource to make it as easy to access and use as possible. The expectation is to run as normal a learning experience to our curriculum as possible. Some pupils, who have been receiving additional one to one support, should start to see the offer of continuing this come through in the next couple of days.

I know that many of you are sharing devices at home and this is causing you some frustration. We have just heard that the DfE website is now up and running so we will put in an order for as many machines as we can. In addition, Wight Support have now revamped our old Samsung machines and they will be allocated by Mr Woodley-Thompson tomorrow.

I found the following on the BBC website which seemed like good advice to share:

- *Do what you can. You don't have to become a teacher. You are a parent and what your child needs most is what parents give best - love and support.*
- *Provide a structure to the day - this does not need to be a strict timetable. And for younger children, keep the afternoons free for more fun activities, craft, cooking, PE.*
- *If you can, set up a small workstation for your child. Headphones could help for online lessons.*
- *If you have a Playstation or Xbox, but not an extra computer, both Microsoft Teams and Google Classroom can be accessed via the consoles.*
- *Talking and reading don't need devices - and both are vital skills.*
- *Practise the basics, like multiplication tables, playing with money, or imaginative role-play.*

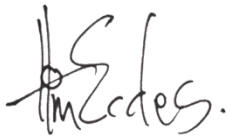
Key worker and Vulnerable pupil places – As I am sure you will have seen in the news over the weekend, the demand for school places is very high.

The expectation is that if pupils can be safely cared for at home, they should be (including critical worker children).

The fewer children in each group the lower the risk of transmission. Thank you to all of you for adhering to this advice.

If you do need to take up on the school place provision please continue to contact us using [fam@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:fam@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk). If you are struggling or require additional support please also contact us and we will do what we can to support.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Eccles'.

Timothy Eccles  
Headteacher