



**Allhallows  
Primary Academy**



**Stoke  
Primary Academy**

Principal for both academies: Mrs L Rimmer

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well.

I am writing to you to outline to you the approach that we will be taking in regard to remote learning, should the situation arise that children are learning at home. We already have huge celebrations in regard to our attendance with an average of 96.18% since the start of term. Consistent attendance at school has had a hugely positive impact on the children's wellbeing, development and progress. While we will endeavour to keep the school open for all pupils for as long as possible, it is important that we also have a contingency plan in place in case learning is flipped from in school to remotely. In the current circumstances there are a range of scenarios that may require some students or staff to stay at home. There are also circumstances where the school may be directed to close for a proportion or even all of the students for a fixed period of time. The purpose of this document is to outline how we will manage the range of circumstances that we may be faced with.

Resources and learning instructions will only be shared on the Google Classroom for children who are self-isolating due to having COVID-19 related symptoms, a confirmed case of COVID-19 or are required to self-isolate due to a medical procedure. Children who are absent for any other reason will not be set work on the Google Classroom. It is our opinion that if they are well enough to engage in learning at home, then they are well enough to come to school, unless absence is due to the aforementioned reasons. Otherwise, we believe that the child is unwell to engage in learning and should be recovering while absent from school to ensure that they are away from learning for a minimum amount of time. These resources will not have the same depth of explanation as lockdown work, but I am sure you will appreciate that teachers need to be spending their time teaching the pupils who are physically present as a priority.

At the moment we are already setting homework tasks through the Google classrooms as this enables all pupils and parents to get used to using this and you may see extra tasks set to further support their in class learning. Our year 6 pupils all currently have a 1:1 Chromebook in class and they can access their class learning on this daily too.

**Allhallows Primary Academy**

Avery Way, Allhallows,  
Rochester, Kent ME3 9HR  
t: 01634 270428  
e: [office@allhallowsacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@allhallowsacademy.co.uk)  
w: [www.allhallowsprimaryacademy.org.uk](http://www.allhallowsprimaryacademy.org.uk)

**Stoke Primary Academy**

Allhallows Road, Lower Stoke,  
Rochester, Kent ME3 9SL  
t: 01634 270268  
e: [office@stokeprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@stokeprimary.co.uk)  
w: [www.stokeprimaryacademy.org.uk](http://www.stokeprimaryacademy.org.uk)



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There is a possibility in the future that if Medway becomes an area of concern that all schools will enter the government's 'Contain' strategy (see annex 3 of the following document for the full detail:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/containing-and-managing-local-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreaks/covid-19-contain-framework-a-guide-for-local-decision-makers>).

Tier 1, 2 and 3 of this strategy would not change our current arrangements. However, if cases are increasing and as a result there are a group of children at home learning and others in school, teachers would:

- teach their lessons as normal to those pupils physically present, these would be whole classes.
- deliver live lessons, supported by resources on Google Classroom for those groups not present.

In the case of a whole class bubble being required to self-isolate, teachers will deliver 'live' lessons as scheduled times in the day. Students will be expected to log in, if they are able, at the time of their lesson and the number of "live" lessons in a day will increase accordingly with the child's age. A register will be taken and absence followed up centrally, as you would expect in a normal school day. We appreciate that not all pupils will have access to appropriate equipment to do this so it is important that families openly communicate with the school to share this information so that we know to support.

If at any point in the future we were facing the prospect of whole school closure, our response will be dependent on the circumstances at the time. In a regional lockdown staff will be expected to place detailed and comprehensive resources on the Google Classroom by 8:30am for lessons taking place that day or where possible work will be available at least the evening before as previous feedback showed parents found this useful. As much as possible, these will contain rich media such as video and audio linked with presentations. These will be supplemented by live lessons, but the frequency of these will need to be determined based on the local situation.

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w: www.allhallowsprimaryacademy.org.uk

**Stoke Primary Academy**

Allhallows Road, Lower Stoke,  
Rochester, Kent ME3 9SL  
t: 01634 270268  
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Should the government decide that we need to go to Tier 4 of the national restrictions there will be specific guidance we will share with our community in detail.

At Tier 4 you can expect the following measures to be in place;

- Attendance for eligible pupils only identified as being vulnerable or the child of a critical worker
- Remote learning in place on the Google Classroom to support learning at home with clear expectations about quantity and deadlines

Whilst we fervently hope that these arrangements will not be required, I would reassure both parents and pupils that we remain committed to all our pupils regardless of their circumstances. Whilst there is no doubt that being physically present in school is by far the best option for all pupils, if circumstances arise that prevent this we will do our utmost to ensure a positive learning experience continues for all.

Best wishes,

Mrs L Rimmer

Principal Allhallows and Stoke Primary Academies

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