



## Hemyock Primary School

Hemyock Primary School  
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Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware on 7 January 2021 the government published revised guidance regarding restricting the numbers of pupils in school during the national lockdown. Below are the key points:

### **Children of critical workers**

The school remains open to the children of critical workers and they have now been offered a space either full or part time. Guidance now states that **“parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can”**.

### **Vulnerable children**

Vulnerable children are expected to be in school full time and we will be working closely with parents to meet this expectation.

### **Nurseries and pre-schools**

In line with the new government guidance Star Class continues to be open. Please ensure that you call the school office if you have not already done so to inform us of your child's attendance. We are waiting for more information from Devon County Council regarding funding for the Spring term.

### **Remote learning offer**

Our remote learning offer is in line with the new expectations and will be published on our website next week. The message that we give to our children in school 'that you never stop learning' has no doubt been evidenced this week, as pupils, parents and staff take on the roles for remote learning at Hemyock Primary School. I have been overwhelmed by the response to home learning, both from pupils and parents and I am proud of our community for engaging, so quickly and supportively, in the way that it has. Thank you for your endeavours in making this possible. Close to 100% engagement online has allowed teachers to continue the education for our children. Teachers will monitor pupil engagement and will contact parents of those not attending sessions or not completing learning tasks, as we move through the next week in school.



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All work that is handed in through TEAMS is looked at by teachers as it would be in school, but not every piece will receive a comment. Please assume that your child is achieving the expected outcome if there is no comment. Teachers will make comments where it will have a direct impact on progress, with regard to any misunderstandings or further development where necessary. We are aware that positive encouragement is rewarding for all learners to gain confidence and teachers will do this in varying ways such as during live lessons, recorded lessons and general feedback in the chat facility. If you feel that your child requires some individual support or feedback for something specific, please contact the school office through the usual communication channels, and teachers will address this for your child.

Communication through TEAMS classrooms should only be between pupils to their teachers with a focus on learning. Parent queries should be addressed through the school office, as usual, as teachers will not be able to answer these during the teaching day. We are adding support documents to our Home Learning page on our school website, which will be a first port of call for parents.

Teachers will provide pupils with a timetable in their classrooms from now. These will be subject to change, as they would be in school, but it will give you some idea of the weekly timetable to support organisation at home. Activities suggested for a Friday afternoon are tasks which allow pupils some choice. Teachers will be offline during this time to carry out planning, preparation and assessments.

I have enjoyed joining live meetings and lessons this week, watching videos that children have sent in, looking at work handed in such as 'instruction writing' and photos of 'disgusting sandwiches' and also reading pupil comments in the online classrooms.

We are very grateful for your compliments and support this week both verbally and through email.

I look forward to seeing more and more of the children's learning over the coming weeks but in the meantime have a lovely weekend and please stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Catherine Willcocks  
Head Teacher