

# Horrington Primary School

## 'What If?'

With cases rising across the country, we are aware that a large number of schools across Somerset have now had a positive coronavirus case confirmed. In almost every instance, the public health advice has been that the year group or class of that pupil have all been asked to isolate for 14 days. We have been very fortunate that this has not happened at Horrington and we are continuing to learn from the experiences of other schools.

Despite the procedures and measures we have put in place to keep Horrington as 'Covid-secure' as we can, there is a possibility that at some point some pupils and staff will need to self-isolate. In order to ensure the continuity of education for all our pupils, regardless of whether they are self-isolating or not, we have put together a plan for 'blended learning' which will enable every pupil in the school to receive education at home or at school.

Within the current guidelines, there are three possibilities:

1. Individual pupils or staff are self-isolating as they or someone in their household has symptoms and are awaiting the results of a Covid test, they have been contacted by Test and Trace or as a result of a positive Covid test.
2. Whole classes are sent home due to a positive Covid case in the class, as directed by the Department for Education and Public Health England.
3. Whole school closes on the advice of Public Health England and everything moves to online provision.

We have put in place plans to enable Horrington School to provide continuity of education for all pupils for the number of different situations that may occur.

### Questions you may have...

We hope that the following information will answer many of the questions parents/ carers may have about the school's provision in the event of pupils or staff needing to self-isolate.



### What if my child has to self-isolate?

The flowcharts and letters sent home earlier in the term (see copies attached) outline when your child needs to self-isolate. In the event of individual children self-isolating, the class teacher will provide online learning activities through Google Classroom from Day 2 of your child's absence from school. These activities will be as near as possible to the learning taking place in school. In this instance, teachers will not be preparing and uploading teaching videos. Work that your child completes should be submitted to the class teacher via Google Classroom.

### What if my child's whole class has to self-isolate?

If there is a positive case at our school, then we will inform all parents/carers of that class group as quickly as possible with instructions on whether they need to isolate and, if so, the duration of that isolation. There may be circumstances where we ask pupils to be collected during the school day, but if that proves impossible, we have planned for continuing supervision of them inside school as long as is necessary.



We will provide teaching and learning activities for the children from Day 2 of the isolation via Google Classroom. On Day 1, children are asked to complete any reading, phonics, spelling and maths homework that is outstanding that week.

Parents can also access activities from the following websites:

### **Websites with activities**

Daily phonics:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

KS2 grammar activities:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrrd2p>

Pobble 365 providing a picture a day to inspire writing:

<https://www.pobble365.com/>

Maths activities:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Purple Mash:

<https://www.purplemash.com>

(login details will be sent home shortly as a reminder for children in Years 1-6 and as new logins for Reception pupils)

Espresso:

[www.discoveryeducation.co.uk](http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk)

Username: student3671 password: hps485

Other schools have reported that parents have found this first day useful in helping to establish a new routine at home.

From Day 2 onwards of any class group isolation, learning will be delivered online to children as a combination of teaching videos, online resources and learning activities. English, maths and a foundation subject learning will be provided each day, as per the timetable sent out by the teachers. Children will also have a dedicated 'reading for pleasure' time on the timetable each day. There will be a mixture of learning activities with some online and some paper or practical tasks each day. Work should be submitted to the teacher via Google Classroom by the given deadline so the teachers can provide feedback (this will be in line with the school's feedback and marking policy). Teachers will give a minimum deadline of 2 days to enable parents working from home time to support their child with uploading work.

**If my child's whole class has to self-isolate, will there be opportunities for live sessions with the staff via Google Meet?**

We are looking to extend our Google Classroom provision to include opportunities for live Google Meet sessions if a whole class is self-isolating. Our plan is that these sessions will not be livestreamed lessons but will be timetabled check-in sessions to provide an opportunity for children to ask their teacher about any areas of learning in English and maths that they are finding tricky. In order for your child to take part in these sessions we require parental consent. To this end, we have produced a livestreaming policy and consent form (in consultation with our County Data Protection Officer and County computing support). The policy is attached to this letter and will be sent out in paper format with your child. Once we have parental consent forms, we will set up some trial Google Meet sessions so teachers and parents have the opportunity to try out this aspect of the learning platform together. This is likely to be after the October half term.

**What if my child is ill but not Covid-symptomatic?**

As with normal cases of illness, we recommend that if a child cannot attend school then they rest and recover at home. If the convalescence is extended and it is appropriate for the child, then the teacher can send work home via Google Classroom.

**What if a teacher is self-isolating but my child is still at school?**

In the event of a teacher self-isolating, and where they are well enough, they will continue to provide teaching and learning activities for the children in school. This will be a mixture of videos (e.g. teacher prepared looms and/ or teaching videos available online), teaching assistant input that has been prepared by the teacher and learning activities. Over time, our plan is to work towards teachers being able to provide remote teaching with some livestreamed lessons into the classroom using Google Meet. We will provide a supervising adult (teaching assistant or teacher) in school for each class if a teacher is absent due to self-isolation.

**What about SEND interventions/ learning support?**

Once we have parental consent for Google Meet sessions, we will endeavour to provide SEND interventions via this remote learning platform. In the meantime, the class teacher and SENCO will ensure that work set is appropriately differentiated and supports/ scaffolds are provided as they would be in the classroom. As always, our class teachers and SENCO can be contacted via the dedicated Horrington parent email address if you have any questions or concerns. Email address: [horringtonparents@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:horringtonparents@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

**What about children in Reception (EYFS)?**

If the children in Reception are required to self-isolate, then they will be provided with a series of activities along with access to online or teacher prepared phonics and maths videos. In addition, the class teacher will provide a one-to-one meeting with parents online or via phone once a week.

### What about the technical aspects of online learning?

For the most part, the virtual provision will be similar to that provided at the end of the summer term, using the Google Classroom learning platform. We are continuing to use this platform for homework and home-school reading communication this academic year so parents, pupils and staff are familiar with the functionality of the learning platform.

We have a number of ongoing issues:

**Notifications** - Teachers are still not receiving notifications from Google Classroom when a private message is sent in by parents/ pupils. Our IT providers are supporting with this but in the meantime, if you don't receive a reply to a private message please can we ask that you write a quick message on the stream to say you have sent a private message and which piece of work it relates too.

**Passwords** - We are receiving quite a number of requests for password re-sets as parents/ children can't remember their passwords. Password re-sets take time to resolve by the staff with admin rights on Google Classroom and sometimes require support from our IT providers. Please can we ask that parents try to find a way to remember their child's password and we will continue to try to resolve any password issues as promptly as we are able to.


### What if too many staff are self-isolating to supervise the children?

In the event of us not having enough staff on site to supervise the children safely, we would send year groups or classes home; which year groups/ classes would go home would depend on which staff are self-isolating. This is very much a last resort.

We hope this document is useful and please do contact us via the Horrington parents' email if you have any queries or concerns. We are very much in this together and appreciate our positive home-school collaboration, which helps ensure the children in our care are in the best possible position (academically and emotionally) despite Covid.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Julie Williams

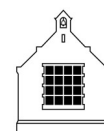
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