

# Whitehill Junior School

Head Teacher: Mr S Mills



Whitehill Road  
Hitchin  
Herts. SG4 9HT

Tel: 01462 621313  
Fax: 01462 621311  
e-mail: [admin@whitehill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@whitehill.herts.sch.uk)  
[www.whitehill.herts.sch.uk](http://www.whitehill.herts.sch.uk)

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your kind messages, patience and helping us to facilitate home learning today. We believe that it is an extraordinary achievement, and testament to the commitment and determination of our school community, that nearly 90% of our pupils have engaged with lessons and form time on the first day of school closure.

We have worked with many of you today to resolve technological teething troubles and would urge you to get in touch if these persist or others crop up. Please can we ask you or pupils to remain muted during lesson delivery, unless invited to unmute by the teacher. If your child has a problem during a lesson, please use the chat function (which will be monitored by an adult to presenting the lesson). We will endeavour to record all live content, so that it can be accessed at a later time if required.

## Expectations

Expectations for participation in remote learning are different and more exacting than the previous lockdown. This is to ensure that – as far as possible - your child's education continues without interruption. Based on DfE guidance for statutory provision and our own intention to offer the highest possible standard given the constraints, we expect all pupils to access teaching content (ideally live but, if not, at a later time) and to submit any work that is set. We have a duty to report attendance and will be in touch if we are concerned about your child's engagement. In the first instance we will do this directly, via Google Classroom, with pupils (just as we would pick this sort of thing up if pupils were in school). If this fails to make a difference, we will then be in touch with you. We understand that there are all sorts of reasons why it might be hard for your child to engage and it is our intention to work with you to find a solution to anything that is presenting a problem. If you know that your child has difficulty accessing any of the home learning content, please get in touch with us by calling the school office or emailing [consult@whitehill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:consult@whitehill.herts.sch.uk).

To signal to pupils that it is very much 'school at home' this time round and to provide continuity between learning before, during and after this period of closure, we would like pupils to complete work in their school books. For this reason, it would be very helpful if you (or your child) could collect their books tomorrow from the top playground (weather permitting) at the time allocated to their year group. Where we have siblings in different year groups, we will ensure you can collect both at the same time. We would ask that no more than one household member enters school grounds to do this.



8.45 – 9.15 am	Y6
9.15 – 9.45 am	Y5
2.30 – 3.00 pm	Y4
3.30 – 3.45 pm	Y3

If you are unable to collect books tomorrow, the same arrangements will be in place on Thursday.

### Critical worker provision

If you applied for critical/vulnerable place, you will be receiving an email shortly. This will include an attendance and lunch option form for you to complete; this is so that we can plan for numbers attending. To keep everyone as safe as possible, we would ask you only to make use of in-school provision when your work prevents your child from learning at home.

### When and where

Pupils may arrive from 8.35am and enter through the front door. Please be patient if others are arriving at the same time and continue to maintain social distancing.

**NB Collection time will be 3.15pm from tomorrow (NOT 3.30 pm).**

Please wait in the following places:

Y3 and Y5 top playground

Y4 and Y6 bottom playground

Kind regards,



Steve Mills  
Headteacher

