

Sir Martin Frobisher Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Gayler

Deputy Heads: Mr David Girdlestone and Miss Victoria Higgins



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term! I hope you all managed to enjoy some family time over the Christmas period. Following the announcement that all Essex schools will be moving to remote learning and only opening to children of Critical Workers, vulnerable children and children with EHCPs on Tuesday 5th January, I would like to update you on how this will work at Sir Martin Frobisher Academy.

Accessing Learning

Later today, you will receive a one-day work pack via email for your child to complete tomorrow. You will also receive a unique login for Microsoft Teams and a set of instructions so that your child can access live learning in the future. We would like all children to login in at 2pm on Tuesday for a practice session and would ask that you support them with this.

If you do not have a device for your child or access to the Internet, please contact the school office. We have a limited number of devices and Internet dongles, which we are able to loan to families during this period.

During this period of remote learning, teachers will be working from home and some classes have been grouped to ensure that online teaching can be sustained, two members of staff can always be available for live lessons and to enable the school to facilitate the Childcare facility.

Classes have been grouped as follows:

- Group 1 - Julia Donaldson and Judith Kerr Classes
- Group 2 – Oliver Jeffers Class
- Group 3 – Roald Dahl Class
- Group 4 – Enid Blyton and Jacqueline Wilson Classes
- Group 5 – Michael Morpurgo Class
- Group 6 – JK Rowling and Michael Rosen Classes

Critical Worker/Vulnerable Pupil/EHCP Childcare Facility

If you feel that you are a Critical Worker and that your child will need to attend school because you have no other form of childcare, please contact the school office as soon as possible but by 4pm at the very latest. You may be asked to provide evidence of your essential role.

Critical Workers are defined as:

- Parents working in Health and Social Care
- Parents working in Education and Childcare
- Parents providing a key public service
- Parents working in local or national government who are essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response, EU transition or provide essential public services
- Parents involved in the production or distribution of food
- Parents working within the Public Safety and National Security sector
- Parents working within the transport and border sector
- Parents essential for utilities, communication and financial services

The full list of Critical worker roles can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If your child is either vulnerable or has an EHCP, you will be contacted by a member of the Pastoral Team today.

The Childcare facility will be supervised by members of the Support Team and will be open from 9am – 3pm. It will run from the school hall. The children will access the same work packs and online learning in school as they would at home. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be on site from 8am - 4pm and a member of the Office Team will also be available throughout the day.

Free School Meals

If your child receives Free School Meals then there will be a packed lunch available for collection from the front office at the following times:

10.30 – Surnames A-G

11.00 – Surnames H-L

11.30 – Surnames N-S

12.00 – Surnames T-Z

There will then be a delivery to the Community Centre on Brooklands from 12.15 – 12.30.

Please remember to wear a mask when you come to collect lunches and maintain the 2 metre Social Distancing guidance.

Over the course of tomorrow, I am expecting to receive further updates from the Trust, Essex and the DFE about whether remote learning will continue or whether the children will be expected to return to school on Wednesday. As soon as I know, I will be in touch with more information about this.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Conroy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and a horizontal line under the name.

Miss Debbie Conroy