LARCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Home Learning

Dear Parent / Carer,

During lockdown we provided your children with work to do at home. This letter is to update you on our enhanced plans should we need to provide home learning again. The provision will be a step up from what was provided before and will hopefully provide a seamless transition from learning at school to learning at home should we need it.

Your child has been sent home today with a piece of paper containing their log in details for all of our online platforms that they can access from home. These can be used at any time (not just for COVID related absence, with the exception of Microsoft Teams) and are often used in school. Please keep this piece of paper safe should you need it.

Each year group will have access to the following platforms:

Reception

Tapestry – a letter has been sent home about this and there is a virtual workshop on Tuesday 6th October.

Year 1 and Year 2

Education City

Bug Club

Letterjoin

Espresso

Microsoft Teams (only for use in COVID related absence)

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Education City

My Maths

Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)

Letterjoin

Espresso

Accelerated Reader (only accessible if we need to self-isolate a year group)

Microsoft Teams (only for use in COVID related absence)

You will notice that children now have access to Microsoft Teams. This will be the learning platform we will use to provide work to children should they need to remain at home for COVID related reasons. This will be if they or a household member are waiting for a test, waiting for a test result, have to self-isolate for 10 days or 14 days following a positive test in the household or if we have to send a year group home for 14 days. We will also be using this for home learning if we have a local or full lock down.



Microsoft Teams will enable the class teacher to upload daily work for maths, English and topic work and children will be able to complete the work and return it for feedback. This process will be much quicker than sending in work via email and can be used via the website or the Microsoft Teams app on a smartphone, where you can take a photo of completed work on paper and upload if you do not have access to a computer. We will also be able to add links to teaching videos that the teachers will be making should a whole year group have to work from home for 2 weeks.

The children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be practising how to log in to Teams and access work during their computing lessons over the next few weeks so that they are familiar with the process. A rough guide is attached to this letter so you can also familiarise yourself, however children don't need to access Teams from home at this time.

We have discussed responsible use of Microsoft Teams with the children. This includes keeping passwords secure and not telling others what they are, other than their teachers and parents. Teams does allow them to be able to send chat messages to other children and we have asked them not to use this facility. It is also something we can monitor. Similarly, they can email within their team, but nobody from outside the school can email them and they can't send an email to anyone outside of the school. An acceptable use policy will be sent out for you to see in the next few days.

We appreciate that not all families have full access to a computer or a smartphone with lots of internet access. Should a year group have to be sent home for two weeks, children will be provided with a maths book and writing book that they can write in so that children won't have to be online all the time and we will try to get a balance between work that can be done online and on paper. If you know accessing Teams may prove difficult, please contact the school office so that a member of the Senior Leadership Team can discuss options with you.

This letter gives a brief summary of what we are going to be doing should we need to. As much as we hope it won't be needed, we need to be prepared.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

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Mr S Bowsher Headteacher

