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Tuesday 12th January 2021

Dear Families,

Remote Learning

During this lockdown, we are following DfE guidance for remote education and hope to provide clarity for parents and children. The expectation is that as full a learning offer as possible, is in place for all children, whether at school or at home. Details of our guiding principles for remote learning are available on the Kite Academy Trust website via the 'Remote Learning' link on the home page. Your local academy will contact you about their specific offer and this will be available on their website.

Kite Academy Trust staff will be using a variety of online tools within each academy, to allow interaction, assessment and feedback. Different platforms have been chosen primarily due to their ease of use by children and families, especially where these are already a familiar means of communication.

Remote learning will equate to the core teaching time in the current school timetable - a minimum of 3 hours for KS1, with 4 hours for KS2 children. Children will be set learning in a number of different subjects as outlined in the mailing from your academy. All academies will use recorded video; sometimes this will be your child's teacher or they may use recorded sessions from other sources.

We also recognise that for staff and pupil well-being, social interaction is vital, both with their peers at home and critical worker children in school. Talking about learning, giving generic feedback and evaluating children's responses to their learning is essential for quality planning. In order to facilitate this, we will shortly begin holding Class Catch-Up sessions whereby real-time class meetings will be facilitated by a teacher and/or members of support staff online using Microsoft Teams. You will be sent a link to these. To join, your child needs to click on the link at the allotted time and wait in the waiting room until their teacher admits them. There is no need to download the app. Learning to be safe in online meetings is an important aspect of internet safety. We are attaching a set of protocols that we would like you to share with your child and ensure that they are followed at home. Class teachers will also reiterate the message with your children.

Please complete a permission slip for your child via this link: <u>Permission for Microsoft Teams</u> as soon as possible.

You can access Microsoft Teams via an Xbox or Playstation console:

Tutorial https://youtu.be/GjDEKJYczxQ



The Kite Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 09785186 Please note that the times for these Catch-Up sessions may vary so that children sharing a device at home will all be able to use it. The use of these sessions will evolve further. If you do not have suitable online access or are struggling with the remote learning, please ensure that you advise your child's academy as soon as possible.

Staff will be contacting families with children with SEND to discuss how they are being supported remotely.

We appreciate your patience and consideration at a time which is challenging for everyone. Please bear with us as staff adapt to this new way of working, balancing the needs of children on site and at home. We look forward to working with you in order to support your child's ongoing learning.

Thank you.

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Christine Dickinson CEO, The Kite Academy Trust