



Ark Elvin Academy

15 January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

At the end of our first full week of live on-line teaching I wanted to write to you all to thank you for your support in getting our children learning full time in lockdown. We all knew that this was not going to be easy, but it has been a real privilege to see so many of our children working hard in all their lessons.

We know that for families juggling your own work responsibilities with childcare and supporting your child with home learning is a real challenge and we hope that you know that we are here to help in any way we can. If your child is struggling to access their on-line learning for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact us.

At the end of this first week here are some helpful tips that we know will help your child work hard at home.

Please make sure your child has:

- **A quiet space where they will not be interrupted during their lessons**

Turn off any radio or music that is playing in the background. Try and keep other siblings away from where your child is working so that they can concentrate. And remove any distractions – game consoles and mobile phones should not be near your child during the school day – unless they are using their phone to access the lesson.

- **A working laptop with internet access**

On-line learning works best from a laptop. Tablets and mobile phones do work but not as well. If your child still does not have access to their own working laptop please let your head of year know and we will try and source a lap top for your child. If you are struggling with wifi data or internet coverage again let us know so that we can get the support for you.

- **Their camera on**

For your child's teacher to support your child best they need their lap top camera on. This means that we can see them working and check that they are doing the tasks when they are asked to and support them more easily if they get stuck. All

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laptops provided by school have working cameras. We have shown children how to blur the background to protect their privacy. If they are struggling to do this make sure they are sat with a wall behind them so that no one else can be seen on the camera. Please check your child has their camera on during their live lessons.

- **Their pencil case and exercise book**

Some of the work the pupils complete is on-line and sometimes they need to write or draw on paper in front of them. We have sent packs home to every family with pen and writing books in for your child to use. Please make sure they have these with them for every lesson.

- **Let their form tutor know if they are struggling with any aspect of on-line learning**

We are here to help your child learn from home. Please contact your child's form tutor if your child is finding anything difficult. You can email them directly or call the school. Finally, whilst the vast majority of our children are behaving really well in lessons and working hard, a small minority have attempted to disrupt learning. We are taking any disruption to learning on-line very seriously. If your child misbehaves, we will call you to let you know. If your child sees any poor behaviour, please let your child's head of year know so that we can make sure it is followed up. **Poor on-line behaviour will not be tolerated.**

We really want to hear how you feel the on-line lessons are going. Please take a moment to complete this short survey – just follow the link [here](#). Please add your child's name if you would like us to contact you directly about any of the issues you raise. With many thanks and wishing you all the very best in these hard times.

Stay safe and let's do what it takes to support your child to **keep learning**.

Ms Curtis

Principal

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