



# **St Nicholas C.E Primary Academy**

Woad Farm Road, Boston, Lincs PE21 0EF

Tel: 01205 363 210 Email: [STNenquiries@infinityacademies.co.uk](mailto:STNenquiries@infinityacademies.co.uk)

Web: [www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk](http://www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs F Booth

*Proud member of the Infinity Academies Trust*

*"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:14-16*



Infinity Academies Trust

Ready to learn; Prepared to flourish.

Friday 8 January 2021

## **REMOTE LEARNING UPDATES**

Dear Families,

At the end of a challenging week for the children, parents and staff, I would like to thank you for bearing with us whilst we went through the process of switching from being fully open to being open only to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. Although it was clear that there was the possibility that schools could be partially closed again, I had not anticipated the extremely short notice we were given by the Prime Minister!

We are now effectively running two systems: remote education for the majority of children and in-school provision for those identified as eligible according to government criteria. All children, whether at home or in school, will learn using the same materials which are published on the school website.

### **Provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers**

The Department for Education has now published guidance in order to determine who should be in school at the current time. The guidance states that: **"Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can."**

If you are a critical worker and have absolutely no option other than to send your child to school then, of course, you should do so. However, you should only send your child into school if you cannot keep them at home or are unable to arrange alternative childcare. Every additional child in school increases the risk to other children, their families and our staff.

If, when reviewing our risk assessments, we consider the school not to be safe, whilst we will not restrict verified critical workers who genuinely need in-school provision from sending their child/ren to school, we may need to consider taking steps to reduce the number of children in school.

We will be requesting evidence from the employer of every critical worker to verify eligibility. Following this, if needed, we may need to consider looking at where the need is greatest (for example, if both parents are critical workers or if the critical worker is a single parent).

Safety must come first and we will be monitoring the rates of infection in Boston closely in the coming weeks. Please think of others and if, having read this, you think you do not need your child to be in school, please contact us to let us know.

### **Remote education – this means education that is happening away from school, it does NOT mean 'online' education**

Thank you to all of the parents who are keeping their children at home and for supporting the first few days of remote education. Now that we are properly up-and-running we are starting to review things and will be making a few improvements which will hopefully make things easier for you.

### **ALL REMOTE LEARNING IS AVAILABLE IN PAPER FORM ON REQUEST**

Access to the internet or to a device is **NOT** necessary in order to help your child to continue their education from home. We will do all that we can to support you in this difficult time.

We will be providing key learning which we would encourage all children to complete (this should take approximately 3 hours (EYFS, Y1, Y2) or 4 hours (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) to do – as recommended by the government) and additional learning which is optional extra work.

Pupils in school will be completing the same learning as those at home, following the weekly timetable.

Although we have worked extremely hard to ensure our remote education offer is as good as possible, please be assured that we fully appreciate how difficult home schooling can be for many parents. **Please do not put too much pressure on yourselves** and do keep in touch with us so that we can continue to offer you the right help and support as well as continually improve and enhance our provision.

The wellbeing of our children, parents and staff remains our highest priority. We desperately want remote education to be as successful and stress-free as possible and we are determined to work with you to ensure that it is – we will do this together!

You will receive lots of information via Parent Hub so please make sure you are checking the posts when they appear; we will also be offering regular opportunities across each week to book a video call (this is called a 'Microsoft booking meeting') with any member of staff of your choosing. We are really excited about seeing you and hope that you will all take this opportunity to gain any additional help/ support/ communication that you require.

Please do keep talking to us.

We are all committed to ensuring that each and every family receives the level of support they need in order to support the remote education of their child.

We look forward to talking with you across the weeks ahead – keeeeeeeep shining everyone.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Booth', written in a cursive style.

Mrs F. Booth  
Head Teacher