



Billingshurst Primary School
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To parents and carers of children in receipt of FSM

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I hope you are all well and that you had a good Christmas break. I know the New Year has not started as we hoped and again we face weeks of lockdown at a time of year that is often tough after the financial demands of Christmas.

This can be really hard on families and we are here to support you. We will have the voucher system working again as soon as we get the guidance and direction from the government. If you are in hardship now and need food or other resources, please contact the school. If we cannot help directly we can put you in touch with organisations who can help you.

Some of your children will be attending school, as there are groups of children able to attend under the government guidance, but many will not. We are able to help you with home learning in a number of ways.

Please follow the link to your child's online learning on your phone if you do not have a computer in the house; you should be able to see the learning for your child and to access the videos which do the teaching. Let us know that you want a pack of the resources and we will have these available for you. You can also collect workbooks and we can provide other equipment if you need such as pencils and colouring pencils.

Some people are reporting problems with their data allowance on their phone contracts. If this is an issue for you, please let me know. There are options to get you increased data packages or a 4G router into your home. The latter may depend on availability of the government scheme but we will do all we can to get you the data you need to support home learning.

There is a scheme to get laptops into homes but, because we have previously not closed the school, I have not been able to access these. I am waiting for the email from the DfE to tell me I can now apply for the school's allocation of laptops but, as yet, it has not arrived. We may be able to get such equipment to families who meet the criteria. I will contact these families directly.

Again, do not hesitate to contact us and we are here to help you through this very challenging time.

Yours sincerely

Helen Williamson
Headteacher

