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September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020

## Remote Learning

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, the children are working in class 'bubbles' while they are at school which is one of the most important measures we have put in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and staff during the Coronavirus pandemic. We have been impressed with how quickly they have adapted to the changes we have put in place and it has been fantastic to see the school full of happy, smiling children, enjoying learning with their friends once again.

However, schools have been asked by the government to set up a remote learning plan if a class bubble needs to isolate at home. This would happen if a child, or the class teacher, were to test positive for Covid-19. In this situation, the class bubble may need to isolate at home for a period of 14 days. We really hope this does not happen but must put in place a contingency plan for children to continue learning while they are not in school.

At Abbotswood, we have decided to use an online teaching platform called Google Classroom. It is a simple, accessible tool for teachers to upload work, teaching videos and resources, while also providing feedback and support for your child while they are working at home. However, it does require your child to have access to a device where they can access the internet. You will have recently received a link to a survey, asking you whether your child would have access to a computer, tablet or phone if their class needs to work at home at any point in the year. If your child does not have access to one of these devices, we will deliver paper copies of work for children to complete.

We have set up a Gmail account for each child which they can use to access their Google Classroom if they need to work remotely at home because their class bubble is isolating. However, we will only activate these accounts if a class bubble needs to isolate. A separate letter will therefore be sent out when a class bubble is sent home which will include the e-mail account details and a reminder about how to access Google Classroom.

To support both you and your child with accessing remote learning via Google Classroom, we have put together a help sheet which is attached to this letter. It can also be accessed on the school website. In addition, the YouTube video below provides a very clear and informative explanation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhti35tLcAY>

If you are using a tablet or phone, you will need to download the Google Classroom app from the app store on your device.

Please be aware that we will only be using Google Classroom if a class bubble is isolating at home. If an individual child is self-isolating, a separate work pack will be delivered for children to complete. These are still being put together so class teachers are currently e-mailing work over to individuals who are isolating at home.

Thank you so much for all your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lucy Howard  
Assistant Headteacher