



January 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Re. Supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

It has been a busy couple of weeks, and all of our staff here at Hardwicke have been working tirelessly to provide Remote Education for all pupils. I feel really proud of our offer for Remote Education, and I hope your child/ren have settled into a new routine, and are enjoying the daily 'live teaching' and working with the teachers and peers.

We also recognise that some pupils, for example some pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access remote education without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers to support those pupils.

I understand that for our parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), the closure of schools is particularly worrying, given for some pupils with SEND they already have gaps between themselves and their peers and there is a concern that the gap will widen. I want to reassure you that measures are in place so that when children return to schools, these pupils will continue to receive additional support and we will continue to deliver our recovery curriculum. We are also taking further measures to ensure that this widening of the gap does not happen.

For pupils with SEND, we believe that teachers are best placed to know how the pupils' needs can be most effectively met to ensure they continue to make progress even though they may not be able to be in school. The requirement for all schools by the Department for Education (DFE), including Hardwicke, is to use our 'best endeavours' to secure the special educational provision called for by the pupils' special educational needs. We will work collaboratively with families to put in place, 'reasonable adjustments' so that pupils with additional needs can successfully access remote education. Adjustments may include, but not limited to:

- Work carefully designed to match the needs of individuals
- Additional resources such as visual timetable, now and next board, number lines, writing slopes, pencil groups etc
- One to one or small group remote intervention such as precision teaching, phonics boosters, Maths booster sessions to name just a few

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We care, learn and achieve... together.*

Therefore we are currently working with our IT provider to enable our support staff to have access to MS Teams on school Ipads, so they are able to deliver remote interventions in a small group. If you have not yet received any other additional resources to support remote learning, please email me, [slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk) and I will liaise with teachers to organise this.

Where MyPlan and MyPlan+ reviews are due, due to limited staff capacity and the emphasis to use technology at home, we will continue with the current targets and teachers will adapt where appropriate. On return to school the MyPlan/+ will be reviewed and new targets created.

Where pupils have an Education Healthcare Plan, it remains the duty of the LA and any health bodies to secure or arrange the delivery of this in the setting that the plan names. However, there may be times when it becomes very difficult to do so, for example, when a pupil or household member may be self-isolating. In this situation, a discussion will take place between the SENDCo and parents/carers and agree how the pupils' needs can be best met. These will be considered on a case by case basis.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to email me, [slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Heather Gregory  
SENDCo  
[slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk)

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