

Never look down on anybody unless you are helping him up. Jesse Jackson

Barley Lane School

Friendship, Optimism, Hardwork

26th January 2021

Dear parents and carers and colleagues, governors and supporting professionals,

We hope patterns and rhythms of schooling both here on site and at home are bedding in for everyone and that precious contact between parents and carers and their child's teacher and learning support assistant is happening freely and frequently? Relationships are vital to our work in school and so they are even more important when the effort is to support learning at home.

Routines are critical to our children and young people and they don't have to be complicated and simple is better so if you can (and we know it's challenging) establish bed-times and food time at home and also work-time and down -time just as we do in school and as I will return to later quality beats quantity and short bursts of good learning the goal and any attempt at learning that leads to conflict and upset at home during lockdown we must question its worth and usefulness?

For children at home all the time it is essential they speak and engage directly with their teachers and that their wellbeing is supported: it can lead to a doorstep visit (many families like and prefer this more human model) or in some cases a formal welfare check if we can't reliably establish everyone at home is okay.

Remote learning for our children must be personalized as it is in school and be pragmatically negotiated and agreed and above all it must actually work for children and families and just as last year we want to reinforce a few things: that quality beats quantity so less work done reliably well is better than battling and falling out; that helping at home with practical tasks and projects like cooking and decorating has proven really worthwhile and fun; that laptops are available as are on-line lessons but we all need to be vigilant about safety on-line; as Ofsted has pointed out on-line working is not the "gold standard" and for some children books and worksheets work better and "whatever works" must be the mantra.

Exploring with your child and your child's teacher what actually works best for you to keep safe and keep learning is the key activity; that team-working that conversation between home and school to share and solve problems together and make the best of a very imperfect situation.

Michael

NAME	NUMBER
Michael MacCourt	07848028341
David Jones	07848457025
Wendy Hoaken	07848028342
Katrina C Crocker	07848457022
Judith Ford	07436104121
Carl Moore	07436104050
Razna Miah	07436104055
Alysa Lee	07848457269
Harry Bushin	07848457083
Michael McDaid	07848457024
Clare O'Riley	07436104113
Office/Continuity	07436104056
Angela Butler	07436104060
Patrisha TG	07436104075
Jessica Hunter	07848457270
Gabbie Barrett	07848457023
Caroline Burnard	07436104059
Chloe Harber	07436104114
Laura Spry	07938377337
Jason McCarthy	07395887217
Nicky Cassidy	07860846254
Chris Long	08760846255
Tim Ahern	07860846263
Julian Credgington	07860846267
Ben Wells	07860846271
Alan Stuckey	07860846277
Natalie Scofield	07860846278
Andy Guy	07860846279
Kitchen/PR	07860846281
Vicki Parr	07860846285
Vicki Sessions	07860846270
Daniel Causon	07999118470
Jenni Phillips	07999114403
Alice Carrington	07436104058
Sam Richards	07999116416
Spare	07860846289
Spare/RDeane	07436090650