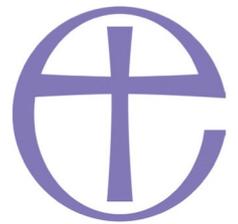




ST. HILD'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Tel: 01429 273041 • Fax: 01429 232235



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Headteacher: Mrs. T. Gibson, BEd. Physics.

At St. Hild's Church of England School we aim to provide all of our pupils with a world class education in a Christian context.

We expect to find God at work in our school.

5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

It is beginning to feel a lot like Groundhog Day and my heart goes out to you and the children as I know how difficult these times can be. I am sure you already know, the government has issued a national lockdown from midnight on Monday 4th January 2021 which is likely to last until February half term.

The full guidance on the new rules can be found here [National lockdown - Stay at Home](#)

Vulnerable children and children of Key Workers

We were very much looking forward to welcoming our pupils back to St Hild's Church of England School, but like all other schools, we have been forced to close to all but vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. Children with at least one parent or carer who are [listed as a critical worker](#) are eligible for a school place.

As you know, we have implemented an extensive range of protective measures to prioritise the safety of our pupils and staff and so we would encourage you to send your child to school if they are eligible and well enough to attend; if you are unsure, please contact the school and we will be able to give you advice.

Free School Meals

All pupils who are eligible for free school meals will continue to receive the vouchers as they did before the Christmas break. To make it easier for parents and carers to do online shopping, we will be issuing the vouchers in 2 week blocks. If you have any issues with accessing online vouchers, please do not hesitate to contact the Main Reception.

Online Learning for all pupils

As I said in my most recent correspondence, we receive this information at the same time as everyone else and so have little time to prepare. The Government, along with school leaders and teachers recognise that it is essential for children to continue to engage with their learning and so schools are working hard to ensure this is the case. The expectation is that we:

- set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects
- set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, and as a minimum 4 hours a day, with more for pupils working towards formal qualifications this year
- provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos
- have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern
- gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks, and provide feedback, at least weekly, using digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate
- teachers adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding



"I have come that they may have life in all its fullness." - John 10:10



We are therefore sticking with our plans for online learning where pupils will follow their normal timetable;

- Years 10 and 11 - teachers are available to deliver online lessons
- Years 7 to 9 – work is available for each lesson with some teacher support

Attached to this letter is a guide detailing our online learning provision and expectations. If you have any issues with accessing online learning, please contact the school as soon as possible and we will do our best to support you and your family.

Summer examinations for Year 11

The government announcement also informed us that the summer GCSE exams will not go ahead as planned. **This does not currently mean that there will be no exams, or any other assessment of your child's learning.** We do not know yet how the government will replace these exams in order to assign your child a GCSE grade; as soon as we do know, we will inform you.

What we are sure of, is that your child will be graded upon their learning and what pupils can demonstrate they “know and can do”. Teachers must be able to provide robust evidence in relation to progress and attainment, and so **engagement in lessons is now more important than ever.** We ask that you encourage your child to try their best and be committed to their learning, both in school when we return, and online. We have witnessed this from the vast majority of pupils so far this academic year and are very proud of their efforts. Learning is key to a healthy life and better life chances.

Covid Testing

I am pleased to inform you that we are now set up to deliver the mass and close contact testing to our pupils and staff. This can begin with those children who are eligible to attend school at present, and will be offered to all pupils on their return to school. Information has been sent out to you before the holidays, along with a consent form (these can be found on our website and in SchoolCal); please ensure the form is returned to allow us to add this additional layer to our health and safety arrangements for your child.

I understand that this can be very confusing and difficult to keep up with. To keep you as informed as possible, we will send out regular communications via SchoolCal which will also appear on our website www.sthilds.org.uk

Please make sure we have your correct email, mobile number and that you have downloaded the SchoolCal app so that you receive all information quickly. You can update your details or get help with technology by contacting the Main School Office via phone or email admin@st-hilds.hartlepool.sch.uk

If you have, any worries or concerns in relation to your child's education or well-being please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you again for your continued support and please do look after yourselves.

Yours Faithfully



Mrs T Gibson

Home Learning Protocol

If you are well and at home, in order to continue with your learning, you will:

- Log-in to TEAMS between 9.00 - 9.10am and follow your daily timetable, accessing each subject TEAM, including PSHE for 'form' time
- Contact the school immediately, if you cannot login
- *Join an 'invite' to a meeting as part of your lesson or access the assignments in your class TEAM*
- Use the TEAM 'post' or 'email' your class teacher if you have any questions, during the school day

Expectations for Parents/Carers who have children at home.

In order to continue to support your child with their learning, you should:

- Help them keep a daily routine, as close to the 'school normal' as possible
- Contact school if there is a problem with your child logging in
- Support and encourage your child: ask about their learning

Expectations for staff who are providing work for pupils

St. Hild's staff will:*

- Provide appropriate work and resources in their class TEAM
- Provide clear instructions for learning
- Be available to answer pupil questions at some point during the school day
- Work needs to be accessible and easy to complete (e.g. no modifying PDFs)
- Give meaningful feedback on home learning
- Keep appropriate records of home learning
- Structure work, so that it offers appropriate support and challenge

**Please refer to Appendix 1 to clarify arrangement from 5th January 2021*

Appendix 1

As per current Government guidelines (04/01/21), St. Hild's staff will provide the following 'home learning' until February half term, when we expect all pupils to return to 'face-to-face' learning in school:

	Years 7/8/9	Years 10/11
Frequency of lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As timetabled - you will receive an 'assignment' for that lesson.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As timetabled - you will receive an 'invite' to join that lesson and/or to complete an 'assignment'.
Who delivers/sets the work or lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your normal class teacher or a teacher from that subject.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your normal class teacher or a teacher from that subject
Type of lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignments with web-links to video lesson/helpful resources.• A teacher is 'on hand' to support and answer Q's.• 'Live' lesson at least once per three lessons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Live' lessons are the norm, though this may be as an 'introduction' to resources linked for children to follow/learn at their own pace.• Teacher is 'on hand' to support and answer questions.
Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A 'task' will be set for each lesson, as part of the lesson.• Deadline for the end of the lesson/day.• Teachers will record engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A 'task' will be set for each lesson, as part of the lesson.• Deadline for the end of the lesson/day.• Teachers will record engagement.