



# St. Anthony's

SPECIALIST SCHOOL ●●

Headteacher: Mr Robert Page  
Tel: (01843) 292015  
Email: [admin@st-anthonys.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-anthonys.kent.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.st-anthonys.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-anthonys.kent.sch.uk)

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Remote Learning Blended Provision**

I continue to be amazed and thankful for your efforts in supporting your child's home learning – our teachers are working extremely hard to find the most 'appropriate' blended learning opportunities for our children, whilst being mindful that everyone's personal and home circumstances are different. I am very conscious too of the increased workload that the current situation is creating for our teaching staff, as well as for you as parents/carers as you facilitate the learning. The number of children attending school remains high, which is requiring almost all of our teaching staff on site juggling the commitment to providing face-to-face care, as well as attending to the needs of those pupils working from home, if we are able to do so.

If you need support with internet connection please contact Antony Curry.

## **Support for our Partner Community**

I would like to reassure all parents and carers that you are doing a great job, whatever your personal circumstances are, and I want you to know that all of us at St Anthony's recognise how difficult home learning can be at the best of times.

We know that we have high expectations in line with government guidance. All we ask is try your best, even if it is short sharp sessions in reading or times tables, and the odd bit of uploaded work. Please don't feel that the school is putting added pressure on you when you are trying to look after your children. Everyone's circumstances are different and we appreciate that.

If you are experiencing data deficiency on your mobile device, to support your child's learning we can provide you with SIM cards from the DfE. Please contact Antony Curry and we will do our best to support you.

## **Children's Mental Health Week**

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week (1<sup>st</sup> Feb – 7<sup>th</sup> Feb) and we are looking forward to fully embracing this as a school, dedicating curriculum time to all things wellbeing – just what is needed at this time.

Please be assured that we are working hard at the moment, to provide both on site and remote education against the worst national health crisis. This is a challenging time for us all, and as ever, your patience and understanding is appreciated.

Keep going, you are doing a fabulous job.

### **Support for families**

[Further government support](#) is available for families who are struggling because of coronavirus (COVID-19). If families need urgent help, they can [contact their local council](#) to find out what services are available in their area.

### **COVID Winter Support**

A £170 million [Covid Winter Grant Scheme](#) announced on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020 is being run by local authorities in England.

The funding will be ring-fenced, with at least 80% earmarked to support with food and essential utility costs, and will cover the period up to the end of March 2021. Local authorities will receive the funding in the coming month.

It will allow local authorities to directly help the hardest-hit families and individuals over the winter period.

### **Reducing the chance of catching or spreading the virus in your home**

Coronavirus spreads from person to person through small droplets, tiny airborne particles known as aerosols and through direct contact.

To reduce the chance of catching or passing on coronavirus to or from the people you live with, you should:

- wash your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds
- regularly clean frequently touched surfaces
- make sure you let plenty of fresh air into your home without getting uncomfortably cold. This should be balanced with other considerations such as comfort, safety and security.

There is further guidance on:

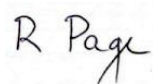
- [letting fresh air in](#)
- [grandparents, parents and children living together where someone is at increased risk or has possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)
- [households with a possible or confirmed coronavirus infection](#)
- [landlords, tenants and local authorities](#)

### **Latest Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information for Thanet**

National lockdown: stay at home.

- You must stay at home. This is the single most important action we can all take to protect the NHS and save lives.
- You must not leave your home unless necessary.
- Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or bubble.

Please remember to – **Wash hands – Cover face – Make space**



Robert Page  
Headteacher