



# Blackthorn Primary School

Waingrove, Northampton, NN3 8EP

Headteacher – **Mrs B. Williams**

[head@blackthornprimary.net](mailto:head@blackthornprimary.net)

Tel: 01604 407254

website: [www.blackthornprimary.net](http://www.blackthornprimary.net)



**NORTHAMPTON PRIMARY**  
ACADEMY TRUST PARTNERSHIP

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## **Blended Learning** **Educational excellence in school and at home.**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government has set out clear guidance for when adults and children may be required to self-isolate. These include:

- If an adult or child displays symptoms associated with Coronavirus (Covid-19) and is awaiting a test result.
- If an adult or child tests positive for Coronavirus (Covid-19)
- If a member of the same household has tested positive for Coronavirus or is symptomatic and awaiting a test result.
- If an adult or child is contacted by Track and Trace and advised to self-isolate.
- If an adult or child is returning from a country for which the government requires travellers to quarantine for 14 days.
- Local lockdown measures require self-isolation for households.

It is likely that over the coming academic year, children across the school may be required to self-isolate and the following letter aims to provide the key information for families on how children's education will continue to be supported from home. It is essential that children's progress in learning is not disadvantaged by not attending school and we have worked hard as a school to improve our provision for children who are learning from home.

### **What is Blended Learning and why is it important?**

The idea is that learning from home and learning in school offer parity, meaning that all children are receiving the same curriculum and no learning is lost. We are calling this Blended Learning as home and school learning is blended together and not separate. As a result, children who are not able to attend school will not fall behind in their studies.

From this September, class teachers will be providing online learning as well as Blended Learning packs with books and resources. These will support your child in completing their lessons to a high standard. The children will be learning new skills in computing, in school, to be able to confidently access the Blended Learning online materials from home. Your child's computing skills will benefit greatly from this approach. It is our aim that, through a greater use of technology in their learning, our children will learn skills that will be invaluable throughout their life.



# Blackthorn Primary School

Waingrove, Northampton, NN3 8EP

Headteacher – Mrs B. Williams

[head@blackthornprimary.net](mailto:head@blackthornprimary.net)

Tel: 01604 407254

website: [www.blackthornprimary.net](http://www.blackthornprimary.net)



NORTHAMPTON PRIMARY  
ACADEMY TRUST PARTNERSHIP

## Online Blended Learning – What do you need to know?

Parents of children in Early Years will have online access to Tapestry and further information will follow, for parents of children in Reception and Nursery, on how to access this resource.

All children in Years 1 to 6 have been set up with their own Office 365 account, including a login username and password.

Your child's Office 365 login details are as follows:

**Username: [nameofchild@blackthornprimary.net](mailto:nameofchild@blackthornprimary.net)**

**Password: XXXXXXXX**

As soon as the school are aware that your child is required to self-isolate, a learning pack will be delivered (socially distanced) to your doorstep by two members of staff. They will talk through any questions you may have.

## What will the Blended Learning Pack include?

Packs will vary a little depending on year groups, for example, Key Stage 1 will have Read Write Inc books and Key Stage 2 may have Get Spelling books. In general, all packs will include basic equipment such as writing materials, exercise books, your child's Maths No Problem book and a reading book.

## What does a day at home completing Blended Learning mean for your child?

- On the first day of self-isolation, your child will be expected to log onto their account for 8:45am to register with their class teacher.
- Your child will be given a timetable for the day and clear expectations of what needs to be done.
- Work will then be clearly set out for that day. This may include activities, quizzes, video lessons.
- Learning may be set which will require your child to complete work from an exercise book, which is why your child will have a pack to support them.
- Sometimes your child will be asked to join a live lesson in school via Teams. This will enable them to follow exactly what is in class. Sometimes videos that match the learning in class will be used as these allow your child to pause and replay parts, which is helpful for understanding.
- Your child's work will be marked each day so that they have some feedback to support their learning.



# Blackthorn Primary School

Waingrove, Northampton, NN3 8EP

Headteacher – **Mrs B. Williams**

[head@blackthornprimary.net](mailto:head@blackthornprimary.net)

Tel: 01604 407254

website: [www.blackthornprimary.net](http://www.blackthornprimary.net)



**NORTHAMPTON PRIMARY**  
ACADEMY TRUST PARTNERSHIP

A guide for parents on how to use Office 365 has been sent home with this letter so that parents are able to support their child as well. Don't forget that your child's teacher is available via email to support you and your child.

Children who do not engage with home learning will be contacted that day and a doorstep visit may be made to discuss any additional support required. All children who are fit and well are expected to engage with their Blended Learning every day. We will do everything we can to ensure that no child loses out on precious learning time and we ask parents to support us in this extremely important goal.

During any period of time when your child may be too unwell to complete home learning, there is no expectation that they complete work.

### **Ways your child can access online learning:**

- PlayStations and Xboxes are able to access the internet and simply require a keyboard with a USB connection to be connected to the device itself.
- Tablets
- Laptops or PCs

Your child will not be able to complete work effectively using a smart phone and we do not advise this approach.

We are very excited to be launching this new initiative for our school community and thank you in advance for your support. If you have concerns about your child being able to access online learning from home, please contact the school office and we will talk through any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Becca Williams  
**Headteacher**



# Blackthorn Primary School

Waingrove, Northampton, NN3 8EP

Headteacher – **Mrs B. Williams**

[head@blackthornprimary.net](mailto:head@blackthornprimary.net)

Tel: 01604 407254

website: [www.blackthornprimary.net](http://www.blackthornprimary.net)



**NORTHAMPTON PRIMARY**  
ACADEMY TRUST PARTNERSHIP