

We will be starting our check-in sessions tomorrow. We fully understand that parents may feel under pressure and may not be able to access the blended (online) learning and check-in sessions on a regular basis. You may not have decent internet connection, a lack of devices and other children in the family trying to access their home learning (some of whom may be preparing for GCSE/A Levels). You may struggle to get your child to engage. Younger children may particularly find online learning a challenge. For a number of reasons, blended learning may present challenges for children, parents and teachers.

PLEASE DO NOT WORRY. We do not want any parent, child or teacher feeling under pressure, especially at such challenging and unprecedented times.

All we ask is that children do **what they can, when they can**. We hope that the children will access the check-in sessions but fully appreciate that this may not be possible, especially twice a day, every day. Again, children should do 'what they can, when they can'.

We need to have regular contact with the children for safeguarding purposes. This may be through the blended learning **and/or** the check-in sessions (or both if children are able to). You can also email the school (email address below) or telephone us to maintain lines of communication. We may also telephone you to see how things are going. We understand that children might do some work out of school hours and this is fine.

Parents can use this email address to contact class teachers for learning advice. Also, if in a day or two you are still having issues accessing the learning and check-in sessions, please email teachers@presteigne.powys.sch.uk (put name of teacher in the subject line please). MS Teams chat can also be used for this. Responses won't be immediate, but we will do our very best to get back to you ASAP.

This email address can also be used by parents/children to make contact with the school and tell us about any learning. Parents often ask if children can carry out activities set by them e.g. baking, nature walks, IT projects (e.g. Minecraft), art, etc. The answer is Yes. Please do. The broader the range of activities children engage in, the better.

I hope this reassures you all. Please bear with us, we are trying to develop systems that work for all. These are very challenging times and we must support each other.

(** I am waiting for clarification on a safeguarding point : parents being in the same room for the check-in sessions. I'll let you all know as soon as I get an update from the LA**).

Many thanks and keep safe.

Adam Faulkner

Headteacher