



Urchfont C. E. Primary School

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3rd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

In recent weeks I have been involved in a number of meetings with staff and Governors relating to the school's provision of learning during the Lockdowns. The pandemic has very definitely created some significant challenges, the current Lockdown probably more than the previous one with more children in school and uncertainty on when the school will be fully open again. Parents and Teachers and Teaching Assistants are all having to work together to provide the best they can for our children whilst continually learning how to do it.

I know that Mrs Talbot and her Team are working under a lot of extra pressure and put in a huge amount of time and effort to provide materials and an environment that parents can use to make home-learning work. There has been some very positive feedback and messages of support from parents for the teaching staff and I would like to thank you all for what you are doing for the children. It is amazing what you are doing. But I also know that sometimes it has not worked well and that some parents are asking for additional support and for the school to use different approaches to on-line teaching.

We have been listening. We are all on a learning curve and as we listen and learn, changes are made; some have been made very recently and others will follow. But what we are able to do is very much shaped by our school: the mix of children, teachers and parents. All schools are different and so I expect our solutions to be different to others; if they meet and balance the needs of our parents and children and teaching staff then I will support it and I hope that you will too.

I also hope that you will continue to share your views. There is a survey sent out to parents this week, please use this an opportunity to be open and honest with your feedback. If you want to say more, then please contact your teacher or Mrs Talbot; they always welcome feedback and want to help if you have problems or issues with home learning, or indeed any other issues (e-mail is best at the moment as the school is trying to minimise visitors). Alternatively, if you wish then I am happy for you to contact myself (chair@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk) or any other Governor; we will treat any contact in confidence if you want.

We really do welcome all your comments and suggestions and I will take this opportunity to thank Mrs Ana Wild, Parent Governor, in particular for listening and passing on your feedback in recent weeks. We can't make real improvements if we don't have your honest feedback.

I look forward to hearing your views and to the school reopening as soon as we are allowed to.

Yours Sincerely,

Ian Walker

Chair of Governors.

