



The Ferrars Academy
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Dear Parents/ Carers,

As per the most recent directive from the government The Ferrars Academy is now closed for all children with the exception of the children of critical workers and vulnerable children. All other children are now expected to be accessing remote learning at home as directed by the school.

In order to help make the time at home a little more manageable and purposeful please find attached this useful information. The government recommend that primary aged children should be engaged in home learning for around 3 hours each day. However it is important to remember that young children learn best when engaged in practical and fun activities for short periods of time with regular breaks in between activities.

We are recommending that you only need to spend 10 – 20 minutes at a time on each activity depending on the age and maturity of your child. Try to keep to a routine each day. There is a suggested timetable on the website under Home Learning. Please see the pictures below which will show you how to access the Home Learning pages on the school website. The teaching staff have been working really hard over the past few weeks to record themselves teaching so there are videos for you to watch with your child to help with the activities. There are enough teaching videos, activities and tasks listed for each year group to complete at home over the next 2 weeks. After this another list of Home Learning will be uploaded onto the website every two weeks until the school fully reopens for all children.

Home Learning

- To access the Home Learning teaching videos, suggested activities and timetable please follow the visual guide below.

The visual guide illustrates the steps to access home learning resources on the school website:

- Navigation Menu:** HOME | ABOUT US | CURRICULUM | PARENTS | CHILDREN'S PAGE | CONTACT US. A red arrow points to the 'PARENTS' link.
- Main Image:** A photograph of two children in school uniforms. A red arrow points from the 'PARENTS' link to this image.
- Left Sidebar:** A vertical list of links under the heading 'IN THIS SECTION:'. The 'HOME LEARNING' link is highlighted with a red arrow. A callout box says: 'Click here to access the Home Learning'.
- Right Sidebar:** A vertical list of links under the heading 'IN THIS SECTION:'. The 'YEAR 1' and 'YEAR 2' links are highlighted with a red bracket. A callout box says: 'Click here to access your child's year group'.



Click here to access the latest home learning for this half term.
You can still access the previous half term if you have not completed these tasks.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTIES ACCESSING THE HOME LEARNING FOR YOUR CHILD PLEASE EMAIL enquiries@ferrarsacademy.co.uk

Additional Tasks and Learning Opportunities

- Each child has a Purple Mash Log on, these were stuck in to the front of your child's green reading record at the beginning of the year. Purple Mash is a super online resource. Children can choose their own tasks and teacher have also set tasks for them to complete which are relevant to their current learning and themes.
- Read Read Read!! What a great opportunity to keep your child's imagination alive with reading any books you have at home- encourage them to then act stories out or alter the characters or plot in a story.
- We have purchased Bug Club for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Your child will have log in details sent to them via ParentMail to access Bug Club via the activelearn website. <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0> This is a fantastic online resource where your child can access lots of E-books relevant to their individual reading levels. Please use this resource like you would use their school reading book and answer the questions together.
- Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will also be sent home a login via ParentMail for Rising Stars – Cracking Comprehension. The children are already familiar with using this in their classes. There are reading activities for the children where they can listen to an extract and then answer questions to develop their reading comprehension.
<https://www.risingstars-uk.com/login>
- Our website has several useful and appropriate websites that will help children learn and be enjoyable to use. These can be found under 'Children's Page- Useful websites'
- Spellings will be sent home each week via ParentMail for children in Year 1 and Year 2- please encourage your child to learn these- use the 'Look, cover, say, write, check' strategy.
- We would encourage any of the children with your encouragement to complete their own mini project on a subject of their choice (this could be a particular animal, country, space, famous person, castles etc.) that they can then share with their class once we open again. They could create fact books/ leaflets/ models/ pictures/ presentations etc. Try to encourage them to work independently rather than just copying large amounts of text.
- Play board games or card games or complete jigsaws with the family and siblings
- Many of our younger pupils would really benefit from practising self-help skills- toileting, putting on coats, getting dressed and undressed, preparing simple snacks like breakfast and sandwiches.
- **Please do not expect your child to sit and complete pages of work at a time. Small short bursts will probably be more successful- they will still need 'down time' to watch TV and play with their toys and siblings.**

Pastoral Support

This is likely to be a very stressful and uncertain time for the whole family.

- Each class will have a class email account so that you can email the class staff directly if you have any concerns or questions. You can also use this account to email any photographs, work or pictures that the children would like to share with their teachers. It would be lovely for the teachers to know what the children have been up to and for them to be able to send messages back to the children. The class email addresses will all follow the same format – classname@ferrarsacademy.co.uk. For example, if your child is in Green class the email address is green@ferrarsacademy.co.uk.
- Staff will be starting fortnightly welfare calls from the week beginning 11th January 2021.
- Please check the website under 'Parents- Useful forms and documents- Useful numbers leaflet' if you experience any problems during self- Isolation or lockdown, this could be with emotional issues/ mental health or financial problems. They may be able to help. Alternatively contact

Council Crisis Support: Freephone 0800 4561673 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm) Or the client can complete an online form <https://www.luton.gov.uk/Benefits/Pages/local-welfare-assistance.aspx#how>

- We are also aware that some children especially many with SEND or indeed any children will not want to work at home as this is different to their normal routine - all children are different. Stay calm and just try a different approach or strategy.
- If you find yourself struggling to feed the family please contact one of the foodbanks- information can be found on ' Parents- Useful forms and documents- Useful numbers leaflet'

If you have any very specific enquiries that you feel you need support with then please email

enquiries@ferrarsacademy.co.uk

DO NOT SUFFER IN SILENCE

A response will be issued but we cannot guarantee the time scale for this.

More general updates including when school will reopen will be issued to all parents via 'ParentMail' and the website.

Thank you and stay safe.

Miss Sarah Green

Principal

