

Wednesday, 30 September 2020

Dear Respected Parent - Assalamu Alaikum / Peace be with you,

Ref: Supporting our pupils continuing to learn from home.

I wanted to take this opportunity to firstly say thank you for your continued support as we return to school. The start of the academic year has gone well, and our pupils have coped with the challenge of following the social distancing measures we have put in place.

At this stage I feel it is important to share some key information around your child's academic progress during this year where Covid 19 will continue to disrupt learning. I have pulled together some key information in relation to learning during a potential individual, bubble, year group or whole school quarantine. Please see this letter as guidance to help you understand how best to support your daughter during any potential period of home learning.

What is the best way to contact the school?

Our school info email account, <u>info@egslough.staracademies.org</u>, continues to be the best way for you to contact the school with any concerns you may have. We will also continue to send you regular letters about Covid-19 and other key information in relation to home learning will be place on the school website or emailed directly to individual parents.

What happens if my daughter needs to self-isolate?

We know that over this year there will be occasions when your daughter is asked to stay home. We ask that if this is the case, your daughter continues to learn using our online learning platform Microsoft Teams. Your daughter has a team (online class space) for all her subjects and will be set work via this platform.

We know that currently in most subjects work is being set that focuses on independent study however, it is our intention that simultaneous teaching occurs where the teachers invite your daughter to participate in the lesson from home whilst the rest of the class participate in school. This ensures that they feel part of the learning but also keep up with the class without being set different work, enabling them to return to school so they are at the same academic level as their peers.

To support you in this, your daughters Head of Year will contact you to ask that she is online and following her timetable for the day. A copy of the timetable and supporting documents will be emailed out to you and within two days of notification that home learning is required we expect pupils to be learning online for all their subjects. Your daughter will also receive advice and guidance through her Year group hub space called EGSLOUGH_Y_GENERAL_MT on Microsoft Teams where her Head of Year will check on her daily.

We have skilled-up all our pupils on Microsoft Teams and feel confident that they will be able to access it from home without any issues.

How much work will be set for my child per week?

Where possible we want your daughter to participate in learning as if she is part of the class, completing class work at the same time as the rest of her peer group. For example, if lesson 1 starts at 8:15am and is Maths,



your daughter will go to her Maths team where work will be ready for her to complete *or* will be able to **join** a **live meeting**. Your daughter has received guidance and training on how to do this.

We are asking that your child tries her very best to keep up with the school timetable and her learning whilst at home by keeping to a daily routine that is the same to her normal school timetable. Normally our pupils complete 6 lessons per day and where possible we want to try to ensure that this continues during any short home learning episode.

What can you do to help your daughter be successful and supported whilst studying from home?

Please support us in trying to ensure that home-learning is successful for your daughter by encouraging her to log in to MS Teams at 8am every day ready for the first lesson at 8:15am. Get her to check her subject teams for communication from her teachers and support her in organising her time whilst at home.

Set out a clear study space where your daughter can focus on her learning. For example, the dining room table or a quiet space in the house. Try to remove distractions where possible.

Communicate with us if following the home learning plan is going to be difficult so that we can support your child better and put in place realistic goals based on your family situation.

Celebrate successes. It is very demanding to stay focused and keep up with learning for six subjects per day and therefore we want you to acknowledge the successes your child has whilst studying from home. Every completed task should be praised.

On the schools website, www.edengirlsslough.com under the tab Education select Homework and Independent Learning to be taken to support documents that will help your daughter and you understand our online learning platform Microsoft Teams.

Please do contact us if you have any questions and I thank you for your support throughout the academic year.

Kind Regards,

Lisa Kiely

Assistant Principal: Teaching and Learning