



Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

School Number 840 3087

Westcroft

Stanhope

Bishop Auckland

Co Durham

DL13 2NU

Tel: 01388 528218

Email: admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk

Website: stanhopebarrington.org.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

12th January 2021

Re: Please be kind to yourselves

Further to my letter yesterday, I am writing to try to give parents some reassurance about remote learning. I really do appreciate all of the constructive feedback we have received over the last few days and we are trying really hard to take concerns on board and to find solutions. Some solutions will take us longer to find than others so please bear with us.

We are already revisiting the amount of work and the type of activities we put on Seesaw following feedback from parents. I really do not want to put parents and carers under any additional pressure. This is a horrible, challenging and difficult time for everyone and every single person is trying to do their best under incredibly stressful circumstances. No child will be penalised in any way for not completing tasks so long as they have attempted to do some of the work set. If you don't have time to complete tasks just send a message to the class teacher explaining. The only children who will be followed up are those with whom we have had no contact whatsoever.

We have only been up and running for a couple of days and we are all learning as we go along. I don't want children spending hours attached to a device trying to master the new skills of using Seesaw and trying to complete their tasks. I don't want parents having to balance their own workload or responsibilities with spending hours supporting their children on Seesaw to the extent that it is causing them stress. I don't want teachers spending hours on laptops responding to hundreds of post every day whilst trying to teach children who are attending school at the same time.

Finding a balance and finding the fine line to tread through all of these conflicting issues is a real challenge, not just for us but for all schools. Please do not suffer in silence. If there is anything we can do to help, support or change we will try our very best to do so.

Our school ethos is KFC (Kindness, Fellowship and Confidence). We all need to be kind to each other but also kind to ourselves; we need to be good friends and show each other fellowship and understanding and we need to be confident in how we navigate our way through the coming weeks and months.

Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School is part of the Durham Diocesan MAT. Durham Diocesan MAT is a company limited by guarantee (company number [10847279](#)) and exempt charity registered in England and Wales at Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham, DH1 3RY.



In the next few days I will be holding a series of virtual meetings for parents in each class where I can update you on our progress with Seesaw and you can raise any concerns or issues directly with me. These meetings will be via zoom and will be held on Friday 15th January 2021 during the afternoon. Each class will have their own allocated time depending upon the number of people attending the meeting. If you would like to join the meeting please either ring the school office or email admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk to register your interest by 12noon on Thursday 14th January and we will then email you the meeting ID and passcode.

Please do not feel under any pressure to attend this meeting, I just thought it might be helpful to offer a face to face meeting to give everyone an opportunity to catch up and share information in a more personal way. If you would like to attend the meeting it will be great to see you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School is part of the Durham Diocesan MAT. Durham Diocesan MAT is a company limited by guarantee (company number [10847279](#)) and exempt charity registered in England and Wales at Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham, DH1 3RY.

