St Vincent's Catholic Primary School

To love, serve and learn as Jesus shows us

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Tuesday 5th January 2021

RE: Provision for remote learning

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that all the children are ok following the shock of not returning to school today. We have been busy reviewing and further developing plans for online learning today and will share final details with you over the next couple of days through a class-by-class timetable so that you can be clear on what to expect and what is expected in relation to your child's online learning, both directed and independent.

As a school we are lucky that these plans have not yet had to be implemented at a whole class level or wider so whilst it has given us chance to continue to develop our offer, it also means that with such a quick turnaround from finding out about lockdown last night to implementation, there may be some initial teething problems, and we thank you in anticipation of your understanding and equally understand that you might also have some teething issues from a home perspective too! We will be in contact with those families who, when surveyed earlier in the year, informed us that they might need support with technology to make arrangements. Please be aware however that the DfE laptops promised have not yet arrived so we are currently reliant on devices that we have in school some of which also need to be available for children who continue to attend school so that they can also access their learning. The distribution of devices may therefore need to be done on a priority basis.

Staff have worked hard to plan a balance of direct teaching online (live and recorded) with independent follow up activities and opportunities for feedback. Our expectation is that you will support your child to fully engage so that we can ensure continued progress during this difficult time. Non-attendance at sessions or work not being returned will be followed up. We are now finalizing the logistics of the live sessions to avoid, as far as possible, multiple classes being required to attend a live teaching session at any one time and then this will be shared with you in readiness for full implementation from Monday.

In the meantime for the remainder of this week, staff will continue to publish activities for the children to complete and return on Teams, or complete via Spelling Shed and Maths Shed. Tomorrow you will receive notification of a live session at some point on Thursday or Friday in which we want to get children together to say hello after the Christmas break and also to explain to them our plans for their learning over the coming weeks. This will also be a chance to answer any initial questions or concerns that the children may have.

Many thanks,

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Dominic Vernon Head Teacher