

## **EXCITING NEWS - Home Learning**

As we continue to immerse ourselves into learning from home, we are keen to develop this further to support you as much as we possibly can.

During these challenging times, it is important that we look after each other at home and beyond. It is therefore our priority to establish a balance between well-being and education.

Following recent feedback, and to open up our channels of communication further, staff have been committed to ensuring that work is appropriately set, easy to follow and accessible for all.

As a school, the next steps, that we are proud to be present, are outlined below and have been shared on our website. We will also be updating you frequently as we develop and familiarise ourselves with these new ways of teaching. Please do be mindful that as a staff, we are learning too; whilst things might not work the first time, we will support you in finding solutions together.

### **Showbie**

Showbie is an online learning platform that is accessible via an app or the website. This will allow learning to be shared between home and your child's class teacher. Alongside this letter, you will be sent a class access code, via text, that will allow you to access an online learning platform. Initially our intention is to use Showbie to;

- Upload the weekly learning schedules to be accessed online (these will also continue to be uploaded onto our website each week)
- Identify pieces of learning (using the Showbie logo) to highlight what should be submitted to the class teacher via the online classroom. Not all learning needs to be submitted.
- Provide weekly feedback to children on the Showbie tasks
- Share daily videos from the staff to share their positivity and motivate learning from home
- Share 'wow' rainbow moments that showcase moments that are important and unique to your child, this could be learning to ride a bike without stabilisers, trying new foods, or even supporting the local community

Further details of how to access Showbie, can be found on our Home Learning page on the school website.

### **Developing Experts**

Developing Experts is an online science curriculum. The platform provides pupils with access to their own dashboard, with lessons assigned to them by their teacher. On this dashboard, pupils can revisit lesson presentations, take quizzes and complete wordsearches.

You can sign in to Developing Experts using the following details:

Website: <https://developingexperts.com/accounts/pupil/sign-in>

Select Abbots Green by typing your school name in the box. Then, enter your 'Pupil login code', which is the first 3 letters of their first name, followed by the first 3 letters for their surname. For example, John Smith's login code would be JOHSMI

This will take you into the pupil dashboard.

### **Class email addresses**

Class emails have been established for all year groups. This means that there is now a direct email address to enable you to communicate directly with your child's class teacher. This is only to be used if this is essential, in the same way that communication would be made with the school office. We love to hear from you about achievements and key events at home, but do please be mindful, that this could result in over 30 emails a day for a teacher to respond to.

All email addresses have been set up using the @abbotsgreenacademy.co.uk. Your child's class name simply needs to be added to the front of this. For example, if your child is in Buttercup class the email will be buttercupclass@abbotsgreenacademy.co.uk. If you're unsure of your child's class name these are also on the school website.

We will continue to celebrate and showcase our Abbots Green headlines on our website and Twitter page. Please do follow this to get a sense of the wider Abbots Green Community

### **Well Being for all**

At Abbots Green, we pride ourselves in knowing the 'whole child' as well as their academic abilities, I want to reassure you that the work schedules that have been provided are for guidance only. Whilst it would be our recommendation that all work is completed, the structure and routine is very much dependent upon individual home situations. We're all learning to juggle learning and home life together.

Whilst teachers are working tirelessly to support you at home, it is important to understand that like you, staff will be working at different times as well as attending online meetings, coming into school as balancing their own families and homes.

**As a school community, we can therefore support one another by agreeing to the following:**



As staff:

- To upload the learning schedules first thing on Monday morning each week
- To motivate and inspire learning at home
- To respond to the piece of work that is submitted through Showbie
- To respond to all emails as appropriate
- To offer support and challenge with learning if appropriate
- To understand that all children will be carrying out learning at different times
- To understand that every family situation is different and unique and that this will impact upon the access to home learning being provided
- To recognise the difference between learning at home and learning at school
- To ensure that to the best of their knowledge that any websites that are used as part of the learning schedules, are safe and appropriate

As parents

- To support my child/ren with their learning as much as I possibly can
- To establish a routine that provides a balance of learning and leisure time
- To be patient in obtaining a response from school
- To understand that a response from staff will not always be instant
- To recognise that different teachers will reply to emails at different times and in different time frames
- To understand that things change (health of one another, including staff and work commitments)
- To share any concerns, questions or comments directly through the school to ensure that we're striving to reach our potential every day.
- To recognise the difference between learning at home and learning at school
- To understand that it is your responsibility to make sure that children access online learning safely
- To ensure that any videos and communication received from staff, through Showbie is not shared beyond Abbots Green

As children

- To find time every day to watch the daily video that has been shared by member of staff
- To ensure that you find time to complete school work every day as well as relaxing and having fun
- To understand that at home there will be rules and expectations that are similar to school
- To share your feelings and thoughts about anything at any time- it's always better to talk things through
- To try your best at all times
- To recognise the difference between learning at home and learning at school
- To make sure that parents/carers know when you are accessing the learning online

On a personal note, I cannot reiterate enough the dedication and hard work of all staff members at this unsettling time that has allowed us quickly to get to the next stage in working from home. I take great pride in the commitment from staff but also the support from yourselves at home.

I genuinely believe that we will continue to fight this nasty virus, I am sure you all feel the same – together we will get through this strange time and come out the other side stronger.

In the meantime, I look forward to continuing to share further learning and developments during this unsettling time.

Take care and stay safe.

Mrs A Morrison