

River Mead School



Lowbourn, Melksham SN12 7ED

Executive Head Teacher – Mrs Lyssy Bolton Head Teacher – Mrs Karen Austin

www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk 01225 703428 Office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk

Our school latest news: <http://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk/news-dates/latest-news>

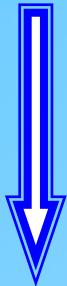
Our Twitter feed: [@TweetRiverMead](https://twitter.com/TweetRiverMead)

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/River-Mead-School-728064724207622/>

Issue 15 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Thank you for your continued support with your children's home learning. Please be aware if your child is not online and we don't know why, we will contact you to see if we can help. There is an expectation that they complete their work as best they can. We will work down the following list in order;



We will phone you - if no reply

We will text you - if no reply

We will e-mail you - if no reply

We will visit your house and knock on the door - if no reply

We will post a note through the door - if no reply

We will ring all the contacts on your list - if we don't know you are safe and well

We will ring the police and/or social care.

We have a duty of care to your children and you and their education—we are not trying to be difficult, or nosy or challenging, we are here to help! It is part of our safeguarding responsibility and procedure to ensure we are clear about your child's safety and well-being. I would not forgive myself if the adult in the house was unwell or incapacitated and your child was at home trying to help you alone.

Please make sure your contact details are up-to date and please answer the phone when we call.

Stay safe, best wishes

Mrs Austin



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



REPLACE

COVID-19 TESTING - Lateral Flow Testing in school

In line with government guidance, we have started preparing for twice weekly testing of our staff so that we are ready to commence a testing programme once our test kits have been received from the Department for Education.

All adults working within our schools will be offered the opportunity to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) at home twice a week; the testing regime aims to reduce transmission of COVID-19 by early identification of asymptomatic carriers of the virus. Testing is not compulsory, and will not replace any of our robust protective measures that are already in place to keep our schools safe – HANDS-FACE-SPACE-REPLACE. There are no plans to test primary school children at present.

Should a member of staff receive a positive result from the LFT test they, along with identified close contacts, will need to self-isolate following government guidelines.

The member of staff will then need to arrange a PCR test for confirmation. This will mean that we may need to close any bubbles affected within the school and, if this is the case, we will contact you to let you know.

Should we be required to close a bubble any children within the affected bubble will need to be collected promptly and self-isolate following guidelines provided.

Wiltshire Council's Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub

The Wellbeing Hub remains in place for those people who may need additional support.

The hub which was originally set-up at the start of the pandemic in March 2020. Anyone can access the hub who maybe struggling during this difficult time, this may include people who are shielding or self-isolating and don't have a support network around them or know where to get help.

People can call the hub Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm on 0300 003 4576 or email wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk.

The communities of Wiltshire have risen to the challenge of COVID-19 throughout the year to make sure people are supported through this very difficult time. We have collated all the community groups we have identified so far in our

[Community Groups Directory \[705.66KB\]](#), which also contains a link to details on local food banks.

Online Learning

As you will now be aware, work is being set for all children working at home on Seesaw. There will also be daily live sessions through Google Meet and your class teachers will let you know what time these are. (see below) They are at the same time each day to enable siblings sharing devices to access these without clashes.

The expectations on schools are different during this lockdown compared to the one in March and we thought it would be helpful if we shared these with you.

There is a greater focus on schools providing work that is in line with the planned curriculum, it is important that ALL children are accessing what their teachers provide on Seesaw.

This will ensure that they continue to make progress in their learning. The children who are in school are also continuing with their curriculum and teachers are working very hard to make sure that what is provided online is as similar to the teaching in school as possible.

The teachers will be checking to see if the children are logging on to Seesaw to complete their work, as well as the quality of work completed. Teachers will phone families where work is not completed to see if there is something we can do to help. However, do not feel you need to wait for this phone call - please contact us through email if you require any help or are facing any problems with the online learning and we will do our best to help you.

homelearning@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk

If your child is not accessing the learning at home the government have advised us to invite your child to attend school so they can complete their learning, Their learning is important to their future.

If you DO NOT have a device to work online we will do our best to help—if you have issues with your internet or mobile data, please let us know.

Google Meet Timetable

The link for your meeting will be on Seesaw. Each Meeting will last for no more than 30 minutes

Reception – 2pm

Y1 - 1pm

Y2 - 10am

Y3 - 11am

Y4 - 11am

Y5 - 3pm

Y6 - 3pm

Beehive - please check Dojo as your teacher may arrange something different for you!



We want to make sure you are kept up-to-date about what is happening in our schools, especially at a time when you can't come in to school and see us in person.

The Mead Trust – as well as our individual schools – has a range of social channels that we post to, as well as the emails and text messages that we send out.

If you use any of these platforms, then please follow / like us! We will be sharing updates, but also love to feature news and achievements from our families, so make sure you tag us so that we can share your posts with our wider community.

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/themeadtrust>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/mwlite/company/the-mead-academy-trust>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/themeadtrust>



BBC TV will be broadcasting lessons on BBC Two (secondary pupils) and CBBC (primary pupils), as well as online from Monday 11th.

The primary programmes, which will be broadcast on CBBC from 09:00 every day, will include BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily as well as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and Operation Ouch.

This another way to access some home learning!



PE Days

For those children in school during 'Lockdown' they will need to wear their PE kits to school on the following days, if you are at home you might also want to get your PE kit on as there will be PE activities to do at home, look out on Seesaw!!

Year 5&6 - Monday (yoga)
Year R - Monday
Year 1&2 - Tuesday
Year 3&4 - Wednesday
Year 5&6 - Thursday
Beehive - Friday



Lockdown DON'T FORGET

If your child is unwell and has covid symptoms YOU MUST still get them tested even though you are not at school. NHS 119 or online can support you.

You MUST let us know, please also let us know if a member of your family tests positive as we are being asked to reflect the positive cases in our school community.

⇒ covidreporting@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk

⇒ or use the emergency covid text number 07521622705

⇒

If you or a member of your family are waiting for a test result YOU ALL stay at home, you DO NOT go out.