

 Date: 19th April 2020

**Ref: Home Learning**

 Dear parents/carers

This period has been challenging for everyone and we hope you’re all adjusting well in these difficult circumstances.

 We wanted to get in touch with all our parents/carers keeping their children at home to let you know about our approach to home learning and what we’re expecting from you and your children.

 Our amazing staff have been working hard to make sure we can continue to provide education for your children. As a reminder, our current approach is:

* Students are emailed work on a weekly basis accommodating their year group and ability.
* Students are also going to be able to access work via an online portal which will be used to set assignments for students that will be monitored by our specialist staff members. Further details of how students and parents are to access this will be sent alongside this letter.
* Students are expected to work an average of 2/3 hours a day

 Over the coming weeks, we are also preparing to create an online programme where students will be able to take part in virtual lessons which will be timetable and provide stability and continuity for many of our young learners. All parents will be kept updated on the progress of our virtual learning programme which is aimed to ensure that no student is disadvantaged during these unprecedented times. However, we are also aware that some families in our communities don’t have the technology/time/circumstances at home to support this learning, so we are also focusing on supporting pupils to learn in the most accessible ways possible

 We hope you can understand that we can’t deliver the same sort of education we do when the school is fully open, but your children won’t miss out by not being in school at the moment. We’ve tried to keep everyone’s workloads – both pupils learning at home and those in school – comparable, appropriate and realistic during this turbulent period.

Please don’t worry about your children getting behind with learning. Everyone’s in the same boat, and when things get back to normal, we’ll make sure we get everyone back on track.

We’ll continue to review how we deliver home learning, so we’ll let you know if we decide to change our approach.

If you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by emailing: info@blackwateracademy.co.uk

If you’re finding it hard at home with your child and are struggling to cope, call [Family Lives](https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/confidential-helpline/) for free, confidential advice on **0808 800 2222.**

If you’re worried about the safety of another child in our community, call the [NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/get-advice-and-support/) on **0808 800 5000**. Or call the police on **999** if you think a child is in immediate danger.

We’re extremely grateful for all the support we’ve received so far from the school community.

Kind regards,

Mr. Kyle Morrison

Headteacher