



Federation of Pinvin C of E First School and St Nicholas C of E Middle School
Main Street, Pinvin, Worcestershire WR10 2ER

Federation Head teacher: Mrs Sandra Jennings

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08th January 2021

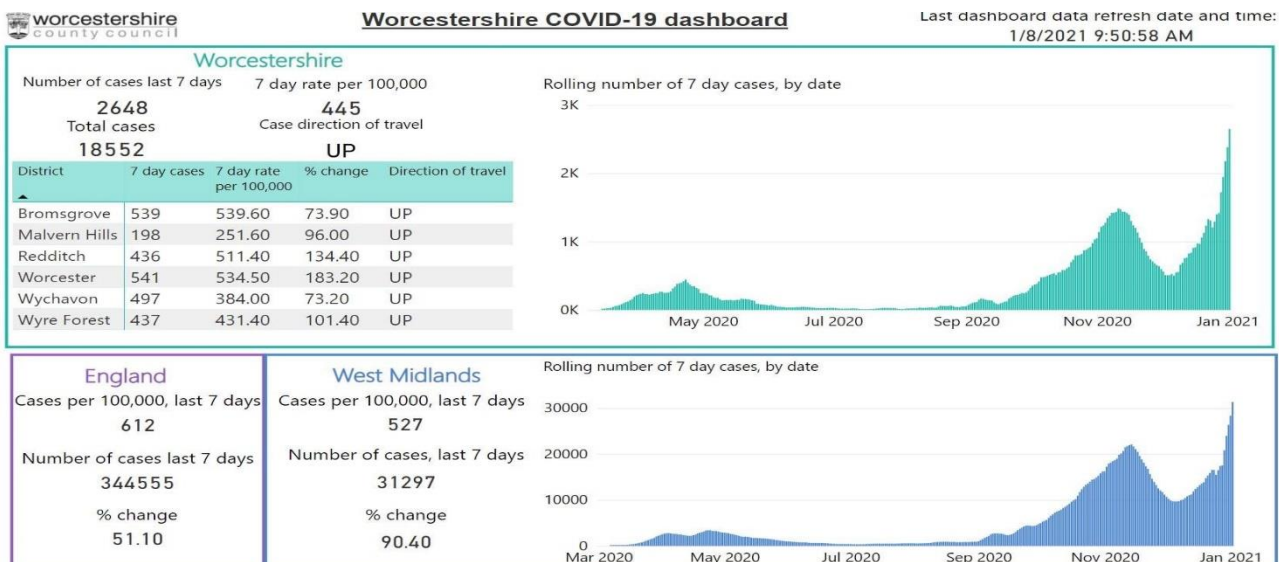
Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, can I take this opportunity again to wish you all a Happy New Year. As we are settling into the 3rd lockdown, I will endeavour to continue to give you regular updates on our position and the constant demand for changes as new guidance is produced.

The new restrictions mean that schools will remain open **only** for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children to attend on site. All other children will continue to access teaching and learning remotely online until at least February half term and remain at home.

We appreciate and agree that this is not welcome news for many parents, however it is essential if the aim is to successfully reduce transmission of the virus and protect our children, staff and families as well as the NHS and keep everyone as safe as possible.

Figures are continuing to increase across Worcestershire and we are told that there is growing pressure on our health system and our hospitals due to the number of cases. See latest figs. below.



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Children of critical workers

We have seen a sharp rise this week in the number of parents and carers indicating that they are in the above categories and this is putting pressure on schools to remain open to more students and hampering efforts to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. We have reached our capacity of critical worker numbers in school in order to remain safe therefore if circumstances change and you no longer need provision, please let us know so that we can give that place to someone else who needs it.

If you are a critical worker and your child(ren) can remain at home rather than attend school, then they should. Please only use the offer of a school place provision when it is **crucial** for you to undertake your critical role and you cannot support your child(ren) at home.

As part of the response to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 at this difficult time we would therefore request that if there is an alternative adult, such as partner or second parent who is not a critical worker, who can work from home or is able to take leave from a non-critical job as per the Government's guidance, then this option is preferred, as it is deemed as a more appropriate alternative.

Remote Learning

I am also attaching with this letter our remote learning provision information. We completely recognise that families are in different situations: some pupils have to share devices, work spaces, some parents are juggling working from home, supervising other children – this is not easy and our aim is to be as sympathetic and supportive as possible. Some parents may not be aware, but google classroom can apparently be accessed also via X- box, Playstation consoles too, (see attached).

Some parents have asked for live-streamed lessons to replicate the school day. Within the same time a larger number of parents have expressed concern that they do not have the devices or the internet capacity for their children to access live lessons. It is almost impossible to please everyone and trying to get this right is a difficult job.

You will see from reading the remote learning information, staff have been asked to include video clips / voice overs or pre-recorded clips rather than 'live' sessions in order to explain and model learning for pupils to ensure that the work set is clear enough for them to undertake. This is far more equitable and allows pupils to share devices throughout the day and evening in some cases where

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several children and adults in one household all need online access at the same time. This approach best meets the needs of our school communities at this current time.

Pupils are already familiar with Google Classroom as our online learning platform and therefore this should run smoothly this time round. Staff are monitoring engagement and are providing feedback to pupils daily and awarding house points to the pupils. Pupils are expected to complete the work set to the standard they know their teacher would expect in lessons and should complete a minimum of 3 hours work daily (4-5 hours if Year 7).

Critical worker children are completing the same work in school which is set as much as possible in line with the curriculum for this term.

Paper copies have been prepared and collected from the office for children who have no internet access and the next pack will be available to collect on Monday 18th January.

Staff are all working extremely hard to ensure that we provide the best possible provision we can in the circumstances. The Senior leadership team will be closely monitoring our remote learning provision. We have (already as you know) had our Ofsted monitoring visit which scrutinised our online provision and had no concerns, however, I am pleased to say that we have further improved the provision following feedback from parents and pupils so that children can successfully continue their learning.

Therefore, please find time to read the information attached and of course if you have any further questions or concerns, please contact me via office@pinvinfed.co.uk. I have also attached to the bottom of this letter information passed on by a colleague on how you can access Google classroom via games consoles, which may or may not be useful!

Stay safe and keep well.

Kind Regards

S M Jennings

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Accessing Google classroom via games consoles.



1. Turn on PS4
2. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to *Library*
3. Select *Library* application
4. Within the library use the search bar to type in *Internet*
5. Select the *Internet Browser* app
6. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search
7. Once on the internet, type in the search box Google Classroom and select the first link that comes up:
Classroom: manage teaching and learning Google for Education - link below'
<https://edu.google.com/products/classroom>
8. Select *Go to Classroom*. Then log in using student email and password.



1. Go to Home Menu
2. Select *My Games and Apps*
3. Scroll down to Apps
4. Go to *Microsoft Edge* application
5. Type in a search for Google Classroom
6. Select *Go to Classroom*
7. You will need to log in using your student email address and password.

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