



Joy Lane Primary School

A Love of Learning, for Life, for All

Oyster Bay Nursery & Oysters SRP (ASD)

Executive Headteacher: Ms DJ Hines

Head of School: Mr M Ashley-Jones

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Survey

Technology Support, Device Loan Equipment and Increasing Data Allowance on Mobile Devices

I am writing to you to ask you to complete our survey so we can ascertain if we are able to offer technical or hardware support to our children learning from home.

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those of you and your wider family who have offered to donate tablets and computers plus the offer of financial help to support children who do not have access to devices – it is beyond kind of you and truly valued. Miss Curtis, our Technical Support wonder woman, will ensure that we are able to install Microsoft Teams on these devices in addition to the 36 working laptops allocated to use by the DfE. We have applied for more but have yet to here if we have been successful.

The Government have given Schools set criteria to follow in loaning devices for home learning, our Home Loan Device Allocation Policy attached. Please note that the Government Loan Device allocation is for children being taught in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 in Primary Settings.

The Government have also offered support for eligible families, with children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to temporarily increase mobile data. The current eligibility criteria includes families facing financial difficulties and:

- Children who do not have access to fixed home broadband
- Families who cannot afford additional data for their devices to
- Are experiencing disruption to their face-to face education
- Children are clinically extremely vulnerable
- Restrictions prevent children from going to school

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit:

Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile, Sky Mobile. Other providers may join the scheme at a later stage.

We are also looking into the option for increasing internet access for 4G routers – at the moment the site keeps crashing due to the amount of traffic but I will update you when I have further information.

I am aware that children are able to access Microsoft Teams through a PlayStations and X Box console – you would require a keyboard to access home learning via this console. You will receive a letter from Mrs Harkins with an overview of how to use Microsoft Teams with a range of devices.

In the meantime, please complete the survey ([click here](#)) and return by Monday at 12 noon please so we can allocate devices to eligible families as soon as possible.

Thank you for your kind attention in this matter and will do our best to support you all as best as we can.

Warmest regards,

D J Hines

Debra Hines



Joy Lane Primary School
Joy Lane
Whitstable
Kent CT5 4LT

PHONE: 01227 261430
FAX: 01227 261572
E-MAIL: office@joylane.kent.sch.uk
WEBSITE: <http://www.joylane.kent.sch.uk>