

Good Morning parents and carers,

After many months of lockdown, it was a pleasure to welcome back all our pupils and parents following an incredibly challenging last academic year.

The pupils have settled in well and are extremely pleased to be back. They understand the different routines and rules to keep them safe. Although they are missing their friends and cannot play with them, they have shown a positive and a mature attitude to all challenges.

Thank you for being patient and cooperative whilst we altered drop-off and pick up arrangements which are now running smoothly.

New Nursery and Reception pupils have had an amazing start. We are so proud of how well our youngest children have settled into school life here at Iqra. Our new children have only been in school for a few weeks and already they are learning the routines, sitting smartly and listening well. The children have learnt the Golden Rules, these are taught through interactive stories in their key worker groups.



They have also played lots of circle games together to encourage them to learn the names of their friends and build confidence when speaking in a small group. Stories and songs are an integral part of learning. Well done to all the Nursery and Reception children and staff – you are all amazing!

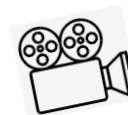
Our Golden Rules

1. Respect myself and others.
2. Do my best at all times.
3. Be a good listener and speak clearly when communicating.
4. Be polite and courteous.
5. Look after my school environment.



Parents of children in Year One and Year Three

Shortly we will be posting videos on the website so that parents of Year One and Year Three who have not been in these school buildings, can see the learning environment within which their children are working. I am sure you will enjoy viewing these.



Learning from Home

As the new academic year begins, we are faced with the continued challenge of finding ways to deliver the curriculum whilst children are not in school. Since September, we have seen children going home because they, their siblings (or other family members) must self-isolate. This can be for 2-3 days or up to 14 days. We also know it is taking up to and beyond 48 hours for family members to get a test result.

The school is committed to providing quality learning for pupils who need to be at home.



When will my child need to learn from home?

- If your child has to self-isolate because of coronavirus. This includes if they are asked to self-isolate by school or if they must self-isolate because their siblings or family members are self-isolating due to a positive test case. This will be for 14 days.
- If a child has to self-isolate because they are awaiting a test result, or a family member is awaiting a test result. This will be approximately 3 days.
- If there is a local lockdown and the school is advised to partially close or your child must shield.

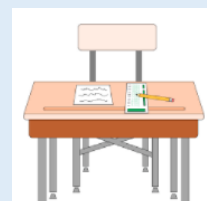
Each day we would like your child to:

- Complete the work activities that will be provided by your child's class teacher and sent to you via SchoolPing.
- Use Seesaw. Nursery and Reception teachers will post work on it and it will be used to receive and give feedback. Please look out for log-in details which will be shared with you this week.
- Use Purple Mash when a link is provided to indicate work has been posted on it. It will also be used to receive and give feedback.
- Read every day for at least 15 minutes, preferably to an adult if your child is in Reception through to Year Four. Older children can read independently.
- Learn times tables, key facts and spellings.

What can I do to help my child?

Create a positive environment for your child to learn at home, for example:

- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, to separate school life and home life.
- Designate a working space if possible, and at the end of the day have a clear cut-off to signal school time is over.
- Create and stick to a routine, as this is what your child is used to at school. For example, eat breakfast at the same time each morning and make sure they are dressed before starting the 'school' day.
- Stick a timetable up on the wall so everyone knows what they should be doing when, and tick activities off throughout the day.
- Make time for exercise and breaks throughout the day to keep your child active.



WE ARE A COMMUNITY

Iqra Academy is running a food bank in the school to support our community members who may need help in challenging times. We will deal with all requests sensitively and maintain confidentiality.



For more information about this, please speak with Miss Hussain.

CHALLENGE

Here is a little challenge to get you talking as a family. Please ask each other the question below. I would love to hear your feedback.



Thank you, parents, for all you do to support the school and staff. It is much appreciated.

Mrs Anwar-Bleem
Principal