

Maiden Beech Academy

Lyme Road, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 8HG

Tel: 01460 72677

e-mail : office@maidenbeech.net

Headteacher: Carl Winch BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH



Wednesday 6th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT: Update and further information about provision during lock down.

I hope you are all safe and well.

It has been fantastic to welcome a number of children back to school, and we are anticipating even more in tomorrow. It has also been lovely to see many of the children online, as part of tutor group meetings, via Microsoft Teams – more about this below.

I aim to write to you, again, on Friday to finalise the details for next week, but thought it would be helpful to share some key information and some answer some frequently asked questions we have received.

How does my child log on to Microsoft TEAMS and the Pupil Portal?

Follow the instructions below. This is how the children log on to their personal account in school

Student Office 365 Username:

Usernames are made up as follows with **@mymba.school** at the end.

<YR> <surname><first three characters from first name>@mymba.school

Where YR = Intake year (Year 5 = 20, Year 6 = 19, Year 7 = 18, Year 8 = 17)

For example: 19Bloggssjoe@mymba.school

Password

The password uses the student's date of birth: Mba.ddmmyy!

For example, if Joe Blogg's birthday was the 2nd May 2006: Password - Mba.020506!

The letter M needs to be a capital, the date of birth needs to be in 6-digit format and there needs to be an exclamation mark on the end.

Pupil Portal Login

The above password also applies to the **Pupil Portal**. The Pupil Portal usernames are as above, but removing the @mymba.school, e.g. 20bloggssjoe.

How do I log on to the Parent Portal?

If you have trouble accessing the Parent Portal or cannot remember your password, please go to www.maidenbeech.net/parents. You will see the following screen:



Please Login

Username

Password

Show Password

Log in

[Forgot your login details?](#) [Sign-up](#)

Please click on 'Forgot your login details?' at the bottom left of the page. You will then be taken to a 'Forgot Login' screen. Please enter your e-mail address in the box and click on the 'Send Password Reset E-mail' box. You will then be sent a link to reset your password.

What do I do if my child does not have a laptop of similar device to access online learning?

We are working with the Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust (BTCT) to acquire new laptops to lend families to enable them to access online learning. We really need to prioritise children that do not have an appropriate device. If you feel you could be eligible for a laptop, please email me directly, using my personal email address: carl.winch@maidenbeech.net, and I will see what I can do.

What do I do in the meantime if my child cannot access resources online?

Contact the school via the Parent Portal or the following email address: office@maidenbeech.net and request a work pack containing hardcopies of resources.

Please check the Parent Portal to see when these packs are ready for collection from the school (usually Friday afternoon). If you are having difficulty collecting the work from school, we can arrange to have the pack delivered to your home.

My child is eligible for free school meals (FSM) will I receive vouchers for supermarkets as before?

Yes, vouchers will be emailed out to you as before. These equate to £2.50 per day. Initially, you will receive a voucher for £12.50 to cover the first week and then £25 vouchers every fortnight. We will send an SMS notification to inform you when the vouchers have been sent.

How will online learning be different from next week?

This week online work has been set on the Pupil Portal for children to complete (the same approach that we used in the summer term during the first lockdown).

From **Monday 11th January**, all children will follow a timetable and three lessons a day will be delivered via Microsoft TEAMS. The draft timetable, which will be finalised and distributed on Friday to each year group is:

- 9:00 – 9:15** Daily tutor time and registration via a TEAMS meeting
- 9:15 -10:00** Online lesson 1
- 10:15 -11:00** Online lesson 2
- 11:45 – 12:30** Online lesson 3

1:30 – 2:00 Independent reading
2:00 – 3:00 Choice of activities – details to follow

The children attending school will follow the same timetable and programme of study to ensure parity of provision.

Provision for children of critical workers

It is a privilege to support critical workers by educating and caring for their children in school. The school will be open from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM

In order to help us plan and to know which children are on site or due to arrive, please could parents drop off and arrange to collect children at any of the following times:

8:45 AM
11:00 AM
1:30 PM
3:30 PM

We expect the majority of children to arrive no earlier than 8:45 AM; however, we can cater for children from 7:30 AM if parents need this support to enable them to attend their place of work.

At the end of the day, we expect the majority of children to leave by 3:30 PM, but we can supervise children until 6:00 PM if necessary.

In order that we can support as many families as we can and limit the number of children on site at any one time, we politely request that children attend school for the time that parents are in work rather than attending for the whole day if this is unnecessary.

Be a Good Neighbour

We understand that the lockdown is a very difficult time for families and that many people are financially struggling at the moment. If you require any help and support, please don't hesitate to contact me, in confidence, and I will do all I can to help.

Crewkerne Community Church is providing fantastic support to the local community through the *Be a Good Neighbour* scheme. This wonderful initiative is providing meals, food supplies and general support for families who are struggling.

They can be contacted using the following phone number: 01460 77489.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I intend to write to you again on Friday for a further update.

Best wishes



Carl Winch

Head teacher