



Education Resources
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**
Head Teacher **Jennifer Innes**

Our ref: 2021/01/WS
Your ref: Letter to
Parents/Carers/Feedback
If calling ask
for: Mrs Innes
Phone: 0141 647 1277
Date: 29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of our second full week of home learning, I wanted to get in touch with you to reflect on the successes of the past couple of weeks and consider our next steps. I know that the past few weeks have been difficult for all of us. The challenges of working (from home or otherwise) and supporting our children, in addition to dealing with the huge number of other issues facing families at the moment, are huge. I want to thank you all for everything that you are doing, and for all your kind words and support. Believe me, every member of staff at Calderwood is with you, as we are all spinning many plates, trying to meet the needs of our own families, too. We get it. That is why it is so important for me to say again that - although we do have high expectations of the provision we are offering pupils, and we want our young learners to engage as much as possible - everyone must make home learning work for them. Do what you can and be kind to yourselves.

Looking forward, I have created a short Google Form that I would ask to complete if you can, to tell us what is working for you and give you an opportunity to make suggestions for improvements. We still do not know how long we will be in this situation, and so it is important for us to be responsive and use your valuable feedback to shape our provision.

The form can be found here:

<https://forms.gle/RgLPVRUqrmIUaKPT9>

We know that we cannot please everyone and there is certainly not a 'one-size-fits-all' answer to home learning provision. That is why it is important for us to continue to reassure parents that we are flexible and sensitive to your needs.

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My key messages to parents and carers are:

- Try your best and do what you can, but make home learning work for you
- Some engagement is better than none – if necessary, prioritise literacy and numeracy tasks
- Contact the class teacher if your child is struggling with any aspect of their learning
- Contact the Senior Leadership Team if there are any other issues impacting your child's ability to engage in home learning
- Remember that we are all in this together and everyone is in the same boat - this is really hard, so please do not put pressure on yourself to do everything

Finally, I have been concerned about all of the recent press around the negative impact of this lockdown on our children and the impact on their futures. There is no doubt that school is the best place for children to be. However, learning has never taken place solely in the classroom or from a textbook. Children learn from every interaction and experience they have. Instead of this being a 'lost generation' (as has been reported in the press) I think quite the opposite. I think we will have a generation of empathetic, resilient, creative, problem-solving young people who will see the world in a completely different way. We need to get better at celebrating what they are achieving every single day, because they are all 'doing us proud'.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend (if you can even distinguish a weekend from the rest of the week at the moment!).

Kind regards,

Mrs Jen Innes

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