

As a parent of three children in North Wales, I thought I would pen my opinion on the blended learning approach that has been adopted by the government.

Personally at the height of the pandemic and with no knowledge of the spread of the disease, you took the decision to close everything down, whilst you endeavoured to make Headway.

This Headway was achieved and in response to a child's education you offered online learning. Yet you failed to provide a formal criteria for what this should be.

My 3 children attend different schools and the comparison between the work provided was horrendous. My daughter age 13 managed to keep on top of most of the work but work was being set on a daily basis from several subjects. Then they changed to a fortnightly format, nowhere near as effective.

My daughter aged 10, her school were absolutely the worse, 3 activities a day that would take at most 45 minutes. One maths task one English and the thought of introducing mantle of the expert as an online creative task. The maths and English tasks consisted of 6 questions at most totally inappropriate for the child's age and ability.

My son age 9, with a full time statement of support received work as set in schools with a must have, could have should have approach. He struggled significantly to engage with the online learning and received little in the way of his allocated interventions.

I work as a supply teacher in schools via an agency, and honestly am concerned that with a blended learning approach continuing that our household are going to be on the poverty line. I get furloughed pay of £400 a month (not payable in school holidays), my husband is a key worker yet we get no meal vouchers and no hub access.

The medical evidence shows that children are at the least risk. And the medical professionals say that it is unlikely that they can pass it to a member of staff because of the mildness of their symptoms if any.

I really feel that the idea of localised lockdown should be undertaken with high case numbers in the future but that children should have their right to an education given back to them, the online education support being given at present is inadequate in facilitating achievement.