

16th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place so that any child who cannot attend school because of COVID-19 does not miss out on their learning.

This letter explains our plans for remote learning for children who have to self-isolate, or where local or national restrictions mean that children need to stay at home.

Our remote learning plan

Our remote learning plan has been made with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school.

As most of you will know that during the last lockdown we used an online platform called Seesaw to send and share work with the children. We shall continue to use this platform for Key Stage 1 (Years R, 1 and 2). For Key Stage 2 we are launching a new platform called Google Classroom.

We have been working with our KS2 children during this term to show them how the platform works, issue them with user names and passwords and get them familiar with it. In term 3 we will commence using the platform for home learning. This will enable both yourselves and the children to become familiar with it and be ready should your child have to self-isolate or we go into another lockdown scenario.

If your child has to self-isolate we will be supplying work for approx. 4 hours per day. We plan to have some recorded lessons for your child to view (not live) and we will be marking or feeding back to your child on a weekly basis.

Within Google Classroom your child will have access to lots of resources and a direct message link to their teacher should they have any questions or concerns. Teachers will check their messages daily and respond to them.

What you'll need at home

- The children will need a device that can access the internet, such as laptop, desktop computer, tablet or smartphone
- They will be supplied with exercise books or note books and pens/pencils
- It would help if they had a quiet space to work ideally a dining room table or desk.

If your child does not have any of the above, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can help support you in the case of national restrictions or long periods of self-isolation.

What we expect from your child

It's important that your child engages with home learning and keeps to a routine of learning 4 hours per day. If they aren't engaging with learning, we'll use the following strategies to provide additional support:

- Phone calls home
- Increased feedback and chat via Google Classroom

We expect them to follow the acceptable use policy and follow school online safety guidance.

What you can do to help

We appreciate that if this situation arises, it may present some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

Younger children in particular may need support in accessing online materials and staying focused with their remote learning. We ask that you help them as much as you can.

At the same time we don't expect you to watch your child all day, and we wouldn't expect parents/carers to get involved in remote lessons in place of our teachers. But, it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what they have learned.

Our top tips:

- Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed for the start of the school day, and to keep to a routine
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over to separate home and school life
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active.

Online Safety

As the importance of online learning increases we need to be mindful of keeping our children safe online. In school we discuss this with the children daily and focus on the subject during our ICT lessons. As part of this we have updated our Online Safety Policy and our Acceptable Use Policy. We have attached both and ask you to read the acceptable use policy with your child, sign it and return it to school. We will send hard copies home with your child for ease.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to talk with your class teacher or contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Becky Reed

Becky Reed
Headteacher