



Creativity is our key to learning

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2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to those of you who responded to our Home-School Learning questionnaire. It has been really useful to hear your views as we put together our Blended Home -School Curriculum and policy. We are sending home today a copy of that Blended Learning policy today- see attached. We sincerely hope that we can keep school open for all children over the next few months and will be doing everything we can to achieve this. However, we are putting plans in place to support children and families who may have to learn from home for short periods.

Below is some of the feedback we received:

Things that worked well during lockdown for families when learning from home:

- Regular communication from class teachers
- Flexibility to access learning to fit around parental work commitments and other children's school work
- On line videos of teachers
- On line activities such as White Rose Maths, Time Tables Rockstars, Phonics Play
- Project work
- Hearing and seeing their classmates' news

Parental suggestions of what else we could do to support children learning from home:

- on line spelling activities and challenges
- On line face to face time with a class teacher
- Time tables to create a routines
- Online lessons with accompanying workbooks
- Physical reading books

How we can support these requests

On line spelling activities and challenges

Teachers will set online spelling challenges as part of home learning through sites such as BBC Bite Size or Kahoot. Phonics Play will still be used in Key Stage One.

On line face to face time with a class teacher

Staff are receiving training on how to use google classroom safely and effectively. We will send home full instructions for parents and carers on how and when to access these sessions. We will also use google classroom in school, to enable the children to become familiar with it. When a whole class has to self-isolate and the teacher is working from home, they will run daily sessions on google classroom from the second full

day of self-isolation. Remote learning will be set immediately and details on how to access work will be sent home straight away. Staff will be required to spend the first day of working from home setting additional work and scheduling sessions on google classroom. The purpose of these sessions will be to go through the work set for the day and to check that the children feel confident to tackle it. Teachers will provide feedback, add further explanations, check on well-being, read stories and set quizzes. If we have more than one class self-isolating, we will timetable these online meetings to ensure children and families who may be sharing devices can attend.

Time tables to create a routines and expectations

Blended learning plans sent home by teachers will include details of how much work should be completed each day and the amount of time that should be spent on each activity. When a whole class is self-isolating, the class teacher will set out a timetable for the work to be done that day during their daily google classroom meet.

Online lessons with accompanying workbooks

We have spent some time investigating the possibility of achieving this. The Department of Education require that our home learning curriculum follows the progression of our in school curriculum, so that children can move as seamlessly as possible from the school into the home, and then back into the school curriculum. This will be particularly important when we only have one or two children self-isolating and the rest of their class remains in school. We do not use work books in school. Teachers plan their teaching sequences carefully - activities are planned responsively to match the progress of the children towards the requirements of the national curriculum. It would not financially viable for us to buy workbooks just for home learning; we have no way of knowing which children will have to self-isolate when, we would have to purchase workbooks for every lesson taught just in case they are needed. Nor are we currently able to provide devices and internet access for families who do not have the capacity for all their children to access online learning simultaneously. Therefore, we are not able to fulfil this request at the moment.

Physical reading books

Longer reading books will be sent home for children in UKS2. Bug Club and Oxford Owls e readers will be set for EY, KS1 and LKS2. Additional reading books can be collected from school, or delivered by school staff when necessary, if families are unable to access e readers. Library books will also be sent home.

If you wish to discuss anything outlined here, or have any further concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you again for your continuing support through these strange times,

Kind regards,

Emma Crowther and Esther Logue.