

Responsibility**Respect****Compassion****Courage**

12th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that you and your families are keeping well and have had the opportunity to login in to Google Classroom or Tapestry for remote learning. As we move into the next phase of remote learning, we would like to outline the arrangements for the coming weeks, whilst school is closed for face to face learning for most children.

School will:

Set work for the class via Google Classroom/Tapestry daily. This will be updated by 9.00am each day.

The teacher will set:

Maths and English (Years 1-6) each day. A member of staff will provide a short introductory pre-recorded video. Please note that this might be a member of the Year Group Team, e.g. the teacher from the other class. These will be uploaded to Google Classroom by 9.00 am each morning.

Topic work, e.g. Science, well-being activities, physical activities will be set weekly.

A member of staff will provide written feedback to the child via Google Classroom – currently this will be two pieces of learning. Please note that feedback will be provided within our usual school hours when possible.

A member of staff will be available via the class email address and make telephone contact with parents/carers as may be needed within usual school hours (9.00am–3.30pm).

As we want to ensure that all children are able to access the learning as fully as possible, we ask that work is submitted via Google Classroom, Tapestry, or the class email address daily. We understand that this may not be possible for some families, due to parents' work commitments, and ask that you communicate this with us via class email.

Safeguarding and our legal duty of care

Please note, if we do not receive any work or hear from you, we will make initial contact via email and then follow up with a telephone call to offer any further support and advice. If we are unable to contact you via these means, wellbeing home visits will be carried out.

The staff team are very focused on the next steps in developing our learning provision and, over the Autumn Term, have undertaken training on Google Classroom. This was successfully piloted within the bubble closures and live interactions trialled with staff who were self-isolating.

The main focus of our discussions have been how to provide quality first teaching remotely and high-quality resources for our children. Following feedback in the Summer Term, we were pleased that there was such positivity about our move to Google Classroom.

We know this is new to many children and their families and it will take some time to familiarise yourselves with using this. We will provide some short guides on the class stream to support this, shortly.

We have listened to the suggestions from some parents, who proposed that we move away from using Oak National Academy and provide more access to video and live interactions. We have carefully considered all suggestions and outlined below is the next phase of our remote teaching and learning provision.

Home Learning – use of Google Meet for ‘Live’ interactions

As we move into the next phase of remote learning, we will be providing live interactions for children to support their remote learning. In order to do this safely, we ask that **all** parents read the agreement with their child, and complete the Google form to say they have read and agreed this. (Reception parents, please also sign this agreement as we will send separate correspondence to you regarding Tapestry.) Please click on the link for the Google Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5NKIE0yqbqIDuD6pA3gV7X2GSEqXi2n40fhGy3GOL5jxBKw/view_form

Please note that, in order to participate in any live interactions, the Google form must be completed.

We will send a further letter, later today, confirming the time of their first ‘Live’ interaction, along with details of how to join such a meeting. The first session on **Wednesday, 13th January**, will focus on supporting your child in using Google Meet independently and discussing how we will work as a class in this new way.

Wherever possible, we will take scheduling into consideration, as we understand that some families have siblings across different year groups.

Support materials for Google Classroom

We are continuing to work on support materials and videos for Google Classroom, and will be adding these to the stream in your child’s Google Classroom over the coming days. If, in the meantime, you have any questions about the learning, please do not hesitate to contact us via the class email address.

Loan of IT equipment, e.g. Ipads/laptops

Please email the school office if your child does not have access to IT equipment and therefore is unable to access Google Classroom. Also, we are very aware that, when parents are working from home, your child may also be trying to work online and there may be a challenge with regard to the sharing of devices. We are currently collating requests from families who find that they are in this situation. If you are facing this challenge and would like the school to consider loaning your family IT equipment, please email the School Office officebl@partnersinlearning.co.uk.

Depending on how many requests we receive, we will need to organise this on a priority basis, so do bear with us as we endeavour to assist you as best we can.

Managing expectations of home learning

We are aware that some parents will find the home learning a challenge in terms of the expectations of quantity and frequency, however, we are continuing to provide **suggestions** of activities that your child/ren can undertake at home and are happy to support you with this.

Following conversations with parents after the last Lockdown, we suggest setting goals for the day, i.e. two or three activities a day, which your child will aim to complete and feel proud about.

Many thanks for your ongoing support and encouragement at this time.

Stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Martin
Headteacher