



Nightingale Primary School

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Remote Education Update

Dear Parents,

It has certainly been an eventful start to the spring term! We are very proud that we were able to put plans in place at such short notice for both our learners at home and in school and appreciate all the kindness and gratitude we have received from so many families.

The purpose of this letter is to explain some of the expectations we have for those children learning from home as well as update you all on how we are working.

Engagement

While most of our school is engaging well, we still have a small number of families who are not. We have developed a system of checking daily whether children are engaging with their learning so we can work with families to rapidly identify effective solutions where engagement is a concern.

In the first instance, teachers and learning support assistants are taking registers for each of their online lessons and monitoring closely the work they receive via ClassDojo. If engagement becomes a concern and teachers and learning support assistants feel that children are not engaging, this will be passed onto a senior leader who will contact the family directly.

For all parents who have to work full time from home we do appreciate it is incredibly difficult to work when a child is at home with you. We also understand your frustrations with trying to continue your child's education and support learning at home when you have work to do, have other siblings also engaging in learning activities and where many of the concepts and skills required are unfamiliar. Additionally, it can be incredibly challenging when children find learning hard. We will continue to try our best to support you and your families with this.

Catch Up Meetings

Our teachers and learning support assistants are working as Year Group Teams sharing the responsibility across the year group. Our teachers are overseeing all learning every day in school and at home which helps as they are able to foster links with families more easily. Whether your child be at home or in school, they will be having contact with their usual Class Teacher.



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We are also introducing whole class 'catch up' meetings to try and combat some of the social isolation your child may be feeling and address any teething problems that may be occurring from the online lessons. As well, this is to further nurture the class relationships and to re-establish class links and camaraderie. Some teachers may share a story, some may have their own conversation starters or use it as we would in school as 'Twitter Time'!

In addition, many classes are now uploading presentations, additional resources to support teaching and learning, and/or recorded videos explaining the tasks and skills required. We are continuing to improve and develop our provision to support children with remote learning.

Live Lessons

We have loved seeing the interaction and connectedness between children at home 'chatting' to each other on the chat facility, however, please can we ask that they only use the 'chat' as and when their teacher has requested which will usually be to guide the teacher's assessments for example: to respond to questions or to help each other with a particular learning activity. If they would like help from a teacher then they can use this facility and teachers are now very skilfully placing children into a 'break out room' for smaller group work and guidance. Teachers will unknowingly miss a few questions due to long 'chats' between children!

Any **inappropriate behaviour** will be treated seriously and as a breach to our behaviour policy. This will be addressed immediately by the Year Group Team and reported to either myself or one of our Deputy Headteachers who will contact parents directly. I know that all our families are in support of this and will not tolerate disrespectful behaviour of any kind that disrupts the learning and work of others.

Resources

We hope that you have all been able to collect your Remote Learning Journal from the school to support home learning. Although many have been collected we still have a small number remaining. If you have been unable to collect them or are struggling to get here, please do let our school office know and we will try our best to help.

The collection of our weekly hardcopy resource packs to support our live and recorded lessons continues. The resource packs will be available to collect from 1.15pm on Monday. As before, class teams will ensure that Monday morning lessons are either paperless or will include the Monday morning resources in the pack from the previous week.

Final message

We ask that you are mindful of our teacher's and the school's workload at this time. Despite the news, schools are definitely not closed with our work now being more demanding than ever. We are also aware and mindful of family pressures and through compassion know that we can work together in strong partnership.

For those families with children in school, please know that we are continuing to work hard to maintain strict control measures to keep your child as safe as we can and support

your child's learning, whilst also putting so much effort into the remote learning for families at home. We thank you for your support throughout this week, it has been appreciated.

Finally, thank you to everyone for your ongoing support and patience. The kindness and gratitude received from so many families has been amazing. I am humbled to be part of such a fantastic team.

Yours sincerely and with best wishes,



Mrs Hannah Beckett
Headteacher