



Five Ways Primary School

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REMOTE LEARNING AT FIVE WAYS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

As you are probably already aware, the Department for Education (DfE) now expects all schools to have a contingency plan in place in case of a local coronavirus outbreak. In the eventuality of a group or groups of pupils requiring to self-isolate at home, or in the event of a local lockdown, also requiring schools to temporarily close, remote learning arrangements need to be in place.

The DfE's expectation for remote learning is a well-planned and sequenced curriculum that enables pupils to build their knowledge and skills and make progress academically. To do this we have been using our home-learning section found on our school website and for those groups or classes who have found themselves in isolation during this Autumn term, our home-learning has been supplemented with daily English and maths lessons via Zoom.

From Monday 16th November, two of our Year 5 classes and one of our Year 6 classes found themselves in isolation and as a result, they successfully piloted the introduction of our new home-learning education platform – Google Classroom.

Google Classroom provides a safe two-way communication for pupils and their teachers to connect, share home-learning content, access homework, participate in discussions and receive class information. Using Google Classroom also allows you and your child to have access to class work at any time and is accessible online through any digital device with internet access, including mobile phones and tablets.

Through Google Classroom, parents and teachers can monitor the amount of work that pupils have completed as well as having the facility for pupils to return their online learning by clicking on the 'turn in' icon, once they have completed their work. Google classroom also has a 'Meet' facility for pupils to see their teachers and class peers, virtually. Whilst we are in the early days of using Google Classroom, we will continue to use Zoom alongside this new platform.

Please be reassured that Google Classroom is an educational tool and will be used strictly for educational purposes, meaning that:

- Pupils will be required to use appropriate English grammar instead of texting language
- Tasks set using Google documents, will need to be 'turned in' and deadlines to complete these will be clearly given
- Where 'Meet' or Zoom calls are made, pupils will be expected to engage in class/group discussions, and uphold school codes of conduct as if they were in their classroom environment
- Pupils will be expected to engage in their learning that their teacher has set for the day



- A suitable learning space will be used to access the home-learning, ensuring high levels of engagement and concentration (this is particularly important when virtual Zoom calls or 'Meet' video conferencing is taking place)
- Although school uniform is not required to be worn, whilst learning at home, appropriate clothing should be worn for virtual meetings (similar expectations for a non-uniform day)
- The site will be used to discuss school-related content only

We would appreciate your support in sharing the above points with your child, as this will ensure that we are all in agreement with the expected code of conduct.

Moving forward, we would like to ensure that all of our pupils, from Year 1 through to Year 6, are ready and equip to use this education platform, should they find themselves having to learn from home. To ensure we are well prepared for remote learning to begin, class teachers will start to introduce Google Classroom during the course of the school day. This will be taught as part of our computing curriculum and will help pupils to familiarise themselves with the navigation around this home-learning platform. We also plan to set initial homework tasks for pupils to complete, which will help them to practice using and navigate their way around this platform from home, prior to them having to use this site during any potential isolation or lockdown. To help us with the launch of this platform, we require the permission from parents for your child to have access to this platform. (Please note that our pupils in Nursery and Reception will be provided with home-learning communication through the school website, Evidence Me and virtual Zoom calls and not through Google Classroom.)

Your child will receive their log in details, from their class teacher during the course of the school week. Your child will then be taught and guided to re-set their password to something memorable and this information will be placed safely in their Home-Link book.

To accompany this letter, there are the following documents for you to read:

- A letter from Mrs Mander entitled 'Google Classroom for Home Learning Agreement' that you will need to read, **sign and return to school via the dedicated email address:**

GoogleClassroom1LB@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Miss Buchan's class)

GoogleClassroom1CH@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Miss Heeley's class)

GoogleClassroom1SR@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Robinson's class)

GoogleClassroom2VW@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Miss Wright's class)

GoogleClassroom2DH@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Horton's class)

GoogleClassroom2RF@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Miss Fereday's class)

GoogleClassroom3HD@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Darby's class)

GoogleClassroom3EP@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Miss Pearsall's class)

GoogleClassroom3LL@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Langston's class)

GoogleClassroom4ER@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Robinson's class)

GoogleClassroom4SG@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Gosling's class)

GoogleClassroom4SM@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Marsh's class)



GoogleClassroom5NL@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mrs Lindsay's class)

GoogleClassroom6SD@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mr Doughty's class)

GoogleClassroom6DW@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk (for pupils in Mr Woodward's class)

Please ensure this agreement is signed and returned to the above email address by **Friday 27th November, 2020.**

- Google Classroom for Education Notice to Parents (this details the Home Learning Agreement)
- The Parent's Guide to Google Classroom (pupils will find this useful also)

These documents, along with a copy of this letter, are also available on the school's website under the Home Learning Tab > Year – see Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 as appropriate.

Screen Time: as Google Classroom is a digital platform, the work we are providing for pupils is accessed online, as this is the most straightforward way to do it. However, it is still possible for pupils to download and print their work on to paper, should you wish for your child to reduce the amount of on-screen time that they have however, this may mean that these pieces of work will go unseen by the teacher.

In order for you to access Google Classroom, you will need to download the Google Chrome browser onto your PC or laptop. For Smartphones and tablets, Google Apps can be downloaded through the Apple App store, Amazon Fire or through Google Play. We are assured that Google Classroom is accessible through all devices however, should you have any difficulties or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact myself through the googleclassroomsupport@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk email address, or alternatively, you can telephone the main office and ask to speak to me.

Thank you for your patience and co-operation; I do hope that your child enjoys this wonderful opportunity to make use of our new home-learning Google Classroom platform.

Yours sincerely,

J K Jones

Miss J Jones

Assistant Headteacher

