



Five Ways Primary School

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Saturday 9th January 2021

Reception Home Learning

Dear Parents,

The government's announcement to move to remote learning for many of our Reception pupils is one that is upsetting. We are saddened that this means more time away from normal education and time away from your children. However, as the Prime Minister said we are hopefully in the 'home stretch' of this pandemic and the safety of our children and the wider school community is paramount. I am sure that you are concerned for your child's education as well as their social development. As a team we would like to reassure you that we will do our utmost to provide achievable and enjoyable home learning activities until the time comes that we can reunite back in our classrooms safely.

As we are now planning remote learning for a prolonged period of time, we will be adjusting how we communicate home learning with you from Monday 11th January.

As before, every day at 9.00 am, you will receive a good morning video from your child's classteacher on Evidence Me with an at-home version of our morning routine. In addition to this one day of the week will be a live morning routine with your child's classteacher. Moving forward you will be notified when these will take place in a weekly letter that will be released onto the school website every Sunday by 5pm. For the week beginning Monday 11th January they are as follows:

Mrs Young & Mr Ferguson's class: Live morning message – **Wednesday 13th January.**

Miss Owen & Mrs Rock's class: Live morning message - **Thursday 14th January.**

Miss Lewis & Mrs Grimsley's class: Live morning message - **Friday 15th January.**

Every day at 9.30 am, the activities for the day will be shared. Any resources you may need will be visible in the box called 'Documents & Links'. There will be a phonics lesson every day alongside two other lessons. Alongside the letter previously mentioned, a suggested timetable and an outline of the week's learning will be released showing how each activity links to the Early Years curriculum.

At 2.45pm a story will be sent via parent share for you to watch by following a link in the 'Documents & Links' box. There will be a few simple questions about the story for your child to answer. One story time every week will now be held live, and this will be **every Thursday at 2.45pm.**

Children who are learning in school will complete the same or very similar activities as those who are learning from home. If your child is in school part time, then you will receive home learning on the other days. You will receive evidence of the work your child completes in school through a weekly parent share to your Evidence Me.



In addition to the above your child will be invited to a zoom session **every Wednesday** with their classteacher and a group of their friends. There will be a focus to each zoom and your child may need to prepare something for these, for example, bring an item to show and tell, dress up as a character, colour a picture or bring a photograph. If your child is learning in school, they will be invited to a zoom meeting **every Monday evening**. If your child's bubble leader is their classteacher you may choose not to attend this as they will have already seen their own teacher and some of their peers in school.

We understand that as parents you may still be working from home, many of you full time, and that home learning will pose challenges. If you are unable to attend zoom sessions, please do not worry. The timetable for learning suggests times similar to the school routine however these can be adapted to suit your day. Many of us also have small children at home and we fully understand your day may look different to our suggestion. In line with government guidance, we are required to keep track of the children's returned work and zoom attendance, this is not to put pressure on you but to provide a duty of care to the children. If we have not seen your child on a zoom call, nor have we received at least one observation over the course of the week we are required to make a pastoral phone call to check on the wellbeing of your child. Please do not be concerned if you receive these calls, they will not reflect negatively on you or your child.

We ask that if possible, at least one observation a day is sent back to staff. These can include photographs or videos of your child completing the daily activities or answering the story time questions. We are aware that some parents continue to have difficulties sharing videos to us. Remember a photograph is enough if you experience problems with video recordings. Please note that many of the Reception staff are in school with bubble responsibilities as well as conducting and monitoring home learning, please be aware that responses to home learning may be slower than usual but your child's teachers will respond to a selection of your activities by the end of the week and will review all of the work that is sent.

Over the coming days you will receive a selection of parent share releases to your child's evidence me account that are for your information only. These will include suggested apps that you can download, a selection of educational websites that are offering free trials and information from the Reception team of in school activities that you can replicate easily at home. This information is to help you build a full day of educational activities around the lessons we release to you. Though we do recommend that you only work on a single activity for up to 20 minutes before giving your child a short break. If your child is struggling with home learning please do not push them to complete every activity that we set. It may be better to expect small steps of engagement, perhaps to attend only zoom sessions next week, or to only ask your child to complete one activity a day. Then you could increase this amount each week. As teachers, of course we value that education is incredibly important and want all of our children to continue to progress, but we also care for the well-being of each and every one of your children and we really just want them to remain happy and healthy! If you have any specific concerns that you want to discuss with your child's own classteacher please contact the school office on 01543 278071 and they will arrange for a phone call to take place.



Should any family be without the technology required to complete home learning please visit <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>. The government have released information on how families can request free mobile data increases. This support is for families and pupils without broadband and/or who cannot afford extra data for devices. Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile and Sky Mobile are all taking part in the scheme. We have also been informed that you can access zoom and Microsoft Office through games consoles you may already have which may be useful information to you. You can find details on how to do this here: [How to get Zoom and Office on your Xbox One or PS4 | The Northern Echo](#). Follow the above links or contact the school office for further information.

We look forward to seeing your home learning. We thank you again for your support and understanding in this difficult time.

Your sincerely,

Mrs Young and the entire Reception team.

