



Five Ways Primary School

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30th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Re: COVID-19 Update – New ways of working

I hope that you are all keeping well and staying safe. I would like to say thank you for being so independent and proactive when endeavouring to continue your child's learning at home.

As stated in my previous letter, it might be useful, in order to make your time at home manageable, to devise a daily timetable for your household for example:

9.00am – 10.00am	Home learning activity suggested by school.
10.00am – 11.00am	Family activity: board games, household chores etc.
11.00am – 12.00pm	Home learning activity suggested by school.
12.00pm – 1.00pm	Lunchtime (<i>Possibly involve your children in preparing the food.</i>)
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Reading time.
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Outdoor time: play in the garden, possibly a walk if permitted.
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Online time: educational game, e.g. Times Tables Rock Stars

We would strongly recommend against too much online activity and online gaming.

This is a reminder that you can access a wealth of activities on our school website that can support your child's learning at home. Activities can be located by following the link: <http://www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk> Please see the 'Home Learning' tab that has been added to our website, then select the appropriate year group activities for your child.

Please note, that within many documents available on our website, there are several activities that your child can complete at home. Your child is not expected to complete all of the activities listed in one go, as this would be over-whelming for any child. For instance, within the 'Year 2 – Writing Ideas' section, there are at least 10 different tasks listed that could be spread out over a 3 week period.

I would also like to stress teachers have purposely not set daily tasks with lots of worksheets, as it was felt that families needed the flexibility to choose activities that suited their circumstances and ones that their child/ren would respond to in a positive way. For example, a child would benefit more from baking a cake and weighing out ingredients, with help from an adult at home, rather than sitting completing 20 questions about units of weight.



In this ever evolving situation that we find ourselves in, I am sure you will appreciate, many of our staff may still experience illness in the forthcoming weeks and months: for that reason I would like to remind you that we have endeavoured to ensure that any work given to your child or placed on the website, will be easily managed at home. As previously mentioned, additional learning activities will be added to the website following the Easter break.

Finally, you will be aware that pupils in KS1 and KS2 have access to Bug Club, MyMaths and Times Tables Rock Stars and that additional tasks / work has been allocated on these programs and is being updated on a regular basis by staff. However, I have been made aware that some parents are experiencing technical faults when trying to logon and navigate the programs. As a result, I am pleased to make you aware that a member of staff will be available to answer questions and provide technical support to parents in this situation. If you require technical support to enable your child to access Bug Club, MyMaths and Times Tables Rock Stars, please email your query to technicalsupport@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk and a member of staff will endeavour to support you.

I would like to thank you again for your understanding and patience during these uncertain times. I am very aware that these are unprecedented, challenging times and that as a result we are all suddenly having to work in a way that we are not accustomed to.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rachel Mander
Headteacher

