



St. Paul's
C.E. Primary School
Learning Together

12 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the government announcement last week, I am writing to update you on the current provision at St Paul's. We have all been very busy planning and setting up a dual system of educating our pupils, comprising good quality learning experiences for vulnerable and critical worker children in school and a comprehensive remote learning package for those children at home.

The expectation from school is that every child should now be able to engage in their learning every day. I am pleased to say that over the last week, we have made this possible for our families by ensuring that all of our children have access to a device, whether they are in school or at home. The teachers will plan, prepare and assess work for all pupils in their classes and the children in school will have access to the same work that is set for those at home.

On-site learning

Pupils in school will be taught in their class bubbles, as they were for the autumn term, and the breakfast and after care clubs will also run in the same way, to minimise risk. Where possible, our usual timetables in school are being maintained and risk assessments are being updated accordingly to reflect any new working practices, ensuring the safety of all pupils and staff.

Remote learning

We have been so impressed over the last week with how well your children have engaged in remote learning and we wanted to thank parents and carers for their support in doing this – you have made a great start!

We are sure that many parents, carers and pupils have felt apprehensive about a return to remote learning and we want you to feel that you are supported in this. Remote learning nationally has seen much development since it first began in March 2020 and we are in a good position to be able to support pupils to make progress at home. We want to provide as much reassurance and advice as possible to ensure that remote learning is effective and allows the children to access their learning more independently than before.

Headteacher: Mrs C Palmer

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How will remote learning be accessed?

Most of the remote learning can be accessed through your child's Class Dojo account. This platform allows teachers to upload work, make links to appropriate lesson resources online, and provide feedback for children. From home, your child can upload their work and reply to comments from their teacher. We hope that the children are able to access lessons and feedback from their teachers easily through Class Dojo, which, in turn, will reduce the pressure for parents and carers facilitating learning.

Although most of the learning will be on Class Dojo, the school website will be used for some learning including Powerpoints which cannot be uploaded onto Dojo. Teachers will make it clear on Classdojo if your child needs access to resources on the website and these can be found on the 'Learning Resources' page where you will find individual class pages.

What can you expect from remote learning this time?

Below is an **example timetable** of what you can expect each day for your child's online learning. It will vary slightly for different year groups. The variety of subjects and range of resources that will be used over the coming weeks to support your child's learning will provide an essential framework that will engage and support them to thrive with their learning at home.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English – 1 hour (including phonics/ spelling/ reading/ grammar/ writing)				
Maths – 1 hour				
Science or Geography or History – 1 hour	Science or Geography or History – 1 hour	'Mrs Timms' Wednesday Challenge' – 2 hours	Science or Geography or History – 1 hour	Science or Geography or History – 1 hour
PE or Music or Art or Times Table Rockstars or Extra activities – 1 hour	PE or Music or Art or Times Table Rockstars or Extra activities – 1 hour		PE or Music or Art or Times Table Rockstars or Extra activities – 1 hour	PE or Music or Art or Times Table Rockstars or Extra activities – 1 hour

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- Lessons and resources will be uploaded daily and will include suggested timings for each lesson.
- Feedback will be provided as promptly as possible via Class Dojo.
- Children can write their answers down in a note book, take photographs then upload them or input it directly onto the device.
- Each lesson will mirror the learning in class and will include some element of teaching new content- this could be through the use of videos or links to other sites.

What do parents and carers need to do to support home learning?

- Ensure that your child is accessing home learning each school day. Getting into a good routine is essential in order to maximise your child's learning and motivate them during these challenging times.
- Encourage your child to be as independent in their learning as possible (obviously this will depend on the age of your child).
- Encourage your child to upload any completed work to Class Dojo.
- Please ensure that your child is using Class Dojo and any other software appropriately and responsibly.

Online learning videos

At St Paul's, we have made the decision to use online learning videos. We understand the pressures of home learning, including access to devices and internet accessibility, and would like to offer as much flexibility with remote learning as possible. By choosing to use links to online learning videos, for example the Oak Academy lessons, it means children can access it at a time which is convenient for the families. It can also be replayed or paused for each child to learn at their own pace and siblings sharing devices can access their lessons at different times. The messaging system on Class Dojo can be used to ask questions and get help and valuable feedback from the teachers in a timely way.

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Stars of the Day

At St. Paul's, we really love to promote achievement in learning and want this to be able to continue despite the current situation. Every day there will be two children in each class chosen, from those at home and those in school, to receive the 'Stars of the Day' award for their learning. Any child that is learning at home should log on to their first task by 9am and will need to have completed and uploaded their first piece of learning by 10:30am to be eligible for this award.

Mrs Timms

Mrs Timms joined St Paul's last week as our new Deputy Headteacher and it has been an absolute pleasure to welcome her to the team. Below is a message from her:

Dear Parents and Carers

I feel extremely privileged to have been appointed as the new Deputy Headteacher of St. Paul's C. of E. Primary School and I would like to take this opportunity to write a few words to introduce myself.

Let me start by saying how impressed I have been with the whole school community - children and adults alike - during this first week of the Spring Term. It has not been an easy start and the true team spirit St. Paul's has really shone through. I was fortunate enough to be able to meet the children briefly on Monday and their behaviour, manners and attitudes to learning really are terrific - they are a credit to you. St. Paul's really does seem like a very happy place to be.

My passion is in ensuring that every child is challenged and enthused to meet their own personal potential - both in school and in their wider lives - in order for them to become independent life-long learners. The needs of the children are always paramount in the life and decision making within a school. I strongly believe in providing the children with exciting, creative and meaningful learning experiences, which build their enthusiasm for learning and help them to grow and develop positively in a variety of ways. It is crucial to involve the children and their families as partners in their education and I look forward to taking the time to get to know everyone over the coming months - especially when things return to normal!

I began teaching as an NQT in a challenging school in inner-city London which was a great foundation for my career. After two years I moved back to West Yorkshire, where I am from, and worked as a Year 6 teacher and RE co-ordinator at Shipley C. of E. Primary School. In 2014 I became Assistant Headteacher at Farnham Primary School in Bradford and in that role I developed a wide range of skills in school leadership. I have been responsible for leading positive whole school developments and I was also appointed as a Specialist Leader in Education to develop other schools across the Bradford area.

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My main specialism is in teaching and learning strategies and models which I base upon research and the most recent updates in education. I love seeing new and exciting ideas coming to life in the classroom to ensure children are engaged in their learning and excited to come to school. I have much experience in developing and coaching staff and I am really looking forward to working alongside Mrs Palmer and the fantastic team of staff at St. Paul's. The latest Ofsted report last February is an indicator of how the entire staff team work to improve standards of education for your children and this provides a strong platform to build on for the future.

Finally, I wanted to say thank you to the whole school community for making me feel so welcome at St. Paul's and I am really looking forward to meeting you all as and when we are able to.

Take care and stay safe!

Wednesday Winner

On a Wednesday, Mrs Timms will be setting some 'Wednesday Challenges' based around one of the ten 'Big Ideas' from the 'Cornerstones Curriculum'. A few of these may involve using a screen for a short time but they can mostly be done away from the computer to give children a break from online learning.

You can choose to do as many of the challenges as you want. Two hours of learning time has been allocated for these on a Wednesday for all pupils but they can be re-visited and spread out throughout the week.

Each Wednesday, Mrs Timms will choose a child from each class to receive the 'Wednesday Winner' award based upon the challenges they have done throughout the previous week. Please share pictures of you doing your challenge or any work you produce on Mrs Timms' messaging page on Class Dojo. We hope you have fun doing the challenges and we can't wait to see how you get on!

These challenges can be found on the 'Learning Resources' page on the class website and by clicking on the tab, 'Mrs Timms' Wednesday Challenge'. See link below:

<http://www.stpaulscephprimary.com/for-parents-and-carers/learning-resources/>

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Working together

Working together at St Paul's, we hope that online learning and on-site provision will be a great success over the coming weeks and we will review the provision regularly to ensure that the needs of everyone are met. With that in mind, please can I ask that you continue to provide feedback to us so that we can make further improvements and advancements where they are needed.

As always, we are here to support you with any issues that you may have. If you are having difficulties with any aspect of your child's learning, or if school can support your family in any other way, please contact the office and we will be happy to help.

Thank you again for your continued support during these challenging times.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Palmer

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