

Bishop Road Primary School

Bishop Road, Bristol BS7 8LS



Head Teacher: Gillian Powe
Deputy Head Teacher: Joe Emissah

Friday 22nd January 2021

Update Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move closer to the end of January, many of us will be observing the progress being made in the roll out of vaccinations, which we all hope will support the earliest possible return to school.

Daily Zoom meetings

The teachers are very much enjoying seeing the children at the daily Zoom meetings, where they are getting an opportunity to hear about many of the things that children have been working so hard to complete. The topics for the daily meetings for the next fortnight are as follows:

WC 25th January – a famous person – this could be anyone who has had a positive impact on the world.

WC 1st February – a place – this may be somewhere children have been, somewhere they have lived or somewhere they have always wanted to go.

Teacher videos continue to be uploaded each week onto the ‘news and events’ section of the website with a variety of topics including music, sport and stories, which we hope children will enjoy watching.

Critical worker and vulnerable children places

Pressure on places in school remains high and we continue to keep numbers below 40%. In line with recent government guidance, all families who are able to support their children at home are asked to do so. Thank you to the families who, through changes in their circumstance, have reviewed their situation and returned their offer of a place. This has enabled us to offer further places whilst not increasing the total numbers of children on site. There remains a waiting list for places. Where space becomes available, we will contact families to inform them. From Monday 25th January, people who have already received a place are able to take this on a part time basis. However, part time attendance will not result in an increase in places offered across the school, as we do not want to extend the total number of contacts in each pod group.



Frequently asked questions

Please find below some responses to frequently asked questions that staff have received this term:

Are children in school and completing remote education covering the same learning?

Both in-school and remote learning offers cover the same lessons and topics. In some cases, small adaptations to certain activities have been made to make the lessons accessible for children at home, but the learning points and objectives are the same. Due to the timetabling of the school day and the need to accommodate break times and Zoom calls, it is not always possible for the sequencing of lessons *within each week* to be aligned between school and home.

Why are teachers recording videos instead of live teaching?

We have chosen recorded videos instead of live teaching for many reasons including the flexibility that this allows for parents and carers who are managing various commitments alongside supporting their children to access the resources. In addition to this many families in our school community have more than one child which can generate added challenges, live lessons also require all families to have multiple devices which we believe to be an unrealistic expectation.

How is the remote learning organised?

The Head of Year or senior staff member takes the lead for remote learning provision. This team leader works with at least one other team member to make plans, prepare resources, record videos and provide feedback to children via Class Dojo.

How much work should my child complete each day?

There is guidance for how long children should spend on activities in each year group's daily plan. According to government guidance, children in KS1 should work for approximately 3 hours with less for younger children and in KS2, children should be working for 4 hours each day. Children work at different paces and this should be seen as a guide and not a fixed rule for each child every day.

Why are the Zoom calls at different points in the day for each class?

We have organised the class Zoom calls at different points throughout the day for many reasons including: to accommodate families with siblings that do not have access to multiple devices and to meet the logistical constraints of staff availability.

Do I need to print the work?

The remote learning provision is designed to be accessible without a printer. Families may choose to print the resources but it is perfectly acceptable for children to work on plain or lined paper.

How regularly should I upload my child's work?

Work should be uploaded on a daily basis for each of the lessons that your child completes. This allows time for teachers to give feedback and for children to respond to this marking where appropriate.



I want to do some work that complements the offer from school. Where can I find extra resources?
The following links provide access to a range of videos and resources that can be used in conjunction with our remote learning provision.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>

<https://nrich.maths.org/9084>

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Joe Emissah
Deputy Head Teacher

