

27.1.2021

## LEARNING AT HOME (REMOTE LEARNING) DURING LOCKDOWN

Dear parents and carers,

Firstly, I hope you and your family are safe and well during these very challenging times. I just wanted to write to you all to provide some further clarity and updates to our remote learning provision and answer some of your questions.

I know that many media stories are discussing how schools are currently closed during lockdown and only open to critical workers and vulnerable children. The current picture at Rudston is that our dedicated staff continue to work full time in school due to the high numbers of children accessing school. In addition to this our teachers are also working hard to provide equal curriculum provision to all our families at home via Google Classroom.

We believe deeply in the value of education and school life in shaping children's development and opportunities in life. As such, we were devastated by the huge amount of lost learning and social interaction in 2020 and worked hard in the Autumn Term to make up for lost time. During this difficult time your children continued to show resilience and determination to succeed.

Sadly, on 5th January, we entered another school lockdown. This time, however, schools were given specific instruction on the expectations for 'remote attendance' and 'remote learning': "Schools must continue to complete the attendance register for pupils who are receiving remote education... Schools should keep a record of, and monitor pupils' and students' engagement with remote education, but this does not need to be tracked in the attendance register." 'Statutory obligations and expectations' Department for Education – gov.uk . We remain responsible for accounting for every child's learning, attendance and welfare, even while we are in lockdown.

We know it's a big challenge, it is for us too, but we are here to help and succeed together!



Therefore, we have developed ways to communicate, teach and monitor every child and support them through this period. Each day, teachers are being asked to give a score from 0-2 for work completed and submitted on Google Classrooms. Therefore, each week, every child from Reception to Y6 can score a maximum of 10 points. I will be sending certificates by email to all children who score the perfect 10 each week and we will have prizes for the very best participants for the whole lockdown period when the children return. Points will be awarded on a Monday for the previous week so children can still receive a certificate if work is completed after school hours or at the weekend. Please try to aim for 8 or more with your child each week!

I completely understand the many different challenges you may be facing: lack of technology, lack of confidence with technology, juggling working commitments with home schooling, and managing personal issues within the family – the list goes on. Despite this, I am delighted to see the participation in home learning increasing as the two weeks have gone by so far and amazed by what our children (with support from parents) have achieved. The skills being developed across the curriculum, but also in communication and the use of technology will benefit us all for many years to come. Thank you for the tremendous effort from children, parents and school staff to achieve this. We can, and will, come through this difficult time together.

If you need us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Issues with access to technology, Google Classroom or passwords should be sent to [onlinelearning@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:onlinelearning@rudstonprimary.co.uk)

Any issues directly related to your child should be sent to the class teachers e.g [year4@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:year4@rudstonprimary.co.uk)  
As all teachers are working full time they have limited time to respond to emails sent to the year group accounts. Please only use this method if absolutely necessary. We do however accept that errors will occasionally occur as teachers are working hard to deliver a comprehensive curriculum. If there is a file error or an access issue, please contact the Year group emails. We will try to address things as quickly as we possibly can.

The year group and online learning emails are only to be used for the enquires outlined above and are not a forum to comment/complain about the schools approach to remote learning.



Any other questions or comments should be sent to [admin@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@rudstonprimary.co.uk)

## **Outline of remote learning provision at Rudston Primary**

We are constantly reviewing and adapting our remote learning provision to ensure we are providing the best provision we can for all children. Following comments from parents we are making some changes to some of the systems this week.

Further information can be found on our website at <https://www.rudstonprimary.co.uk/remotelearning3/>

The guidance for the latest national lockdown sets out the following expectations for remote learning.

Schools and teachers are expected to:

- ***Set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects.***

At Rudston we are providing a direct copy of the provision delivered to children in school. This follows the usual class timetable including reading, writing, maths and foundation subjects as well as assemblies, P.E. and PSHE sessions. These activities will be a mix of consolidation of previous learning and new learning just like we do in school.

- ***Primary schools should ensure pupils have three hours' work a day, on average, across the cohort.***

The range of activities set each day should take 3 hours to complete. However we are aware that some children will complete these activities quicker when they are at home. To provide additional learning tasks your child has a range of tasks and activities to complete throughout the week. These include Bug club, TTRock stars and Spelling shed. (please contact us on [onlinelearning@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:onlinelearning@rudstonprimary.co.uk) if you do not have the passwords for these sites.

- ***Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos.***

This week we are increasing the numbers of pre-recorded teaching videos provided. Each day your teacher will upload a video which will summarise the learning from the previous day and provide a clear explanation



and introduction of the day's task. This video will mirror the teacher input given to children in class. These videos will be pre-recorded to enable children and parents to access them at a time that is suitable for them as well as allowing them to be re watched to support maximum understanding and progress. Please note that during a 'normal' teaching session the teacher would provide a short (5-10 minute) input to the children while the rest of the session would be time for the children to work on the task – this is mirrored by the pre-recorded video input we are providing on Google Classroom.

During the lesson the teacher will offer support and motivation to complete the task- this is where you as parents are critical in supporting remote learning. Please try and support your child as much as possible and motivate them to complete their tasks as well as they can. We do understand that this is difficult and very different from in school so we are providing activities that require a range of support with many activities that the children can complete on their own.

In addition we are also providing a range of curriculum resources and videos such as White Rose Maths, YouTube links and interactive websites to support learning and improve engagement.

➤ **Have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern.**

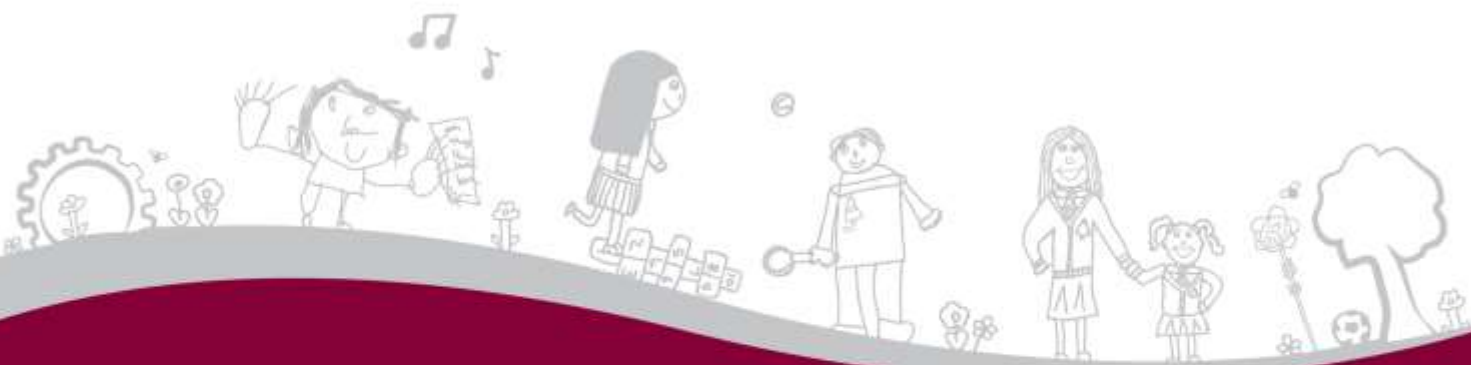
Teachers monitor pupils' engagement daily however we understand that some families will be completing work at different times due to parents work schedules, device sharing and family commitments. If we are concerned about your child's lack of engagement we will contact you via text, email or telephone on a weekly basis. If your child is ill, please let us know at [admin@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@rudstonprimary.co.uk) as we do not expect your child to complete work if they are ill.

➤ **Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks.**

Through their daily observation of work teachers are assessing your child's progress. If there are concerns we will contact you to offer support and advice. If you feel that your child is struggling to complete activities please contact the year teachers using year group emails e.g. [year2@rudstonprimary.co.uk](mailto:year2@rudstonprimary.co.uk)

➤ **Provide feedback, at least weekly, using "digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate".**

This week we have increased the number of pre-recorded feedback videos as well as increasing the level of individual feedback given to children working at home. We do understand that as children and parents some



of you would like personalised feedback to every piece of work submitted. Our whole school feedback policy states that:

*“It is vital that teachers evaluate the work that children undertake in lessons, and use information obtained from this to allow them to adjust their teaching. Feedback occurs at one of four common stages in the learning process:*

1. *Immediate feedback – at the point of teaching*
2. *Summary feedback - at the end of a lesson/task*
3. *Next lesson feed forward – further teaching enabling the children to identify and improve for themselves areas for development identified by the teacher upon review of work after a previous lesson had finished*
4. *Summative feedback – tasks planned to give teachers definitive feedback about whether a child has securely mastered the material under study”*

We appreciate the immediate feedback from teachers is not possible during remote learning, however I want to reassure parents that all children’s remote learning is looked at by the teacher and this is used to inform their planning of the next steps of learning.

From this week all children will be given 2 pieces of personalised feedback on the work they have submitted during the week. This summative feedback will take the form of a written comment or voice message.

In addition the children will receive a daily ‘feed forward’ video. This video will provide positive aspects of work completed by the class as well as direct teaching for new concepts/ activities.

To provide summative feedback at the end of a unit of work the teacher will set quizzes and tasks to demonstrate the progress the child has made.

As part of the Google Classroom platform parents and children have the opportunity to send private comments to their teacher. Please be aware this is not required as teachers will be assessing all the work submitted by your child. Feedback will be given as outlined above and private comments cannot always be responded to.

I would just like to finish by saying that I do appreciate that this is not easy for you as parents, for your children or for the staff who are in essence doing two jobs. I am also aware that some local schools are offering a different approach to Rudston. Please be aware that each school is operating differently at the moment. Some schools have such low numbers in school that teachers are working on a rota with teachers at





**Rudston**  
Primary School



home full time delivering their remote learning. This is not possible at Rudston at the moment. We will continue to do our very best for all our children (either at home or in school) in providing a broad and balance curriculum.

Thank you for all your support and positive comments that we have received, they really mean a lot to us all.

Please take care and stay safe. I look forward to being able to welcome all children back to school when we can.

Yours sincerely,  
Wendy Walters  
Headteacher



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