



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your understanding at this incredibly difficult and frustrating time. I am sure you all recognise everyone has a part to play in fighting this dreadful virus. The late notice of the Lockdown, announced on Monday, has created huge amounts of work to ensure we have a safe environment and systems in place which meet the government expectations for home learning alongside in-school work. I must thank you for your patience waiting to learn of our plans.

As always it is our intention to make you aware of our proposals at the earliest opportunity and I am sure you understand we would prefer our intentions to be communicated once to avoid confusion through constant change. We have followed the Government instruction when allocating school places, but recognise there may be some who feel disappointed they are not able to access these school places at the moment. If anyone who is learning at home needs access to school resources such as exercise books or stationery please do let us know and we can make this available.

Home Learning

The Government has made it a requirement for primary school children to be completing an average of 3 hours school work per day and in order to support working parents we are aiming to deliver live lessons to children at home. Our aim is for the teacher to deliver their lesson as a live stream either on Zoom or on Google Classroom. Children at home are expected to be at their device to access the learning from the time set by the individual class teachers.

A Teaching Assistant will be supporting the children at home by taking a register and checking they are completing the work during the lesson. The teacher will also be available to answer questions throughout the lesson. We believe we will be delivering from Year 1 upwards Maths, English, Reading Comprehension, Spellings, and Science. There will also, from time to time, be other work set which is required to be completed the same day as well as some opportunities for children to choose to undertake some additional independent learning from a selection on the the learning platform.



We would ask all parents to ensure the following code is adhered to while lessons are taking place

1. Children are in suitable space to complete work and not in bedrooms, and if possible with an adult nearby to support any technical issues.
2. Children are prompt in attempting to log into their learning platform and re-join where needed.
3. Cameras are to be on for the initial part of each lesson, but may need to be turned off during the lesson.
4. Children should be dressed and wearing their school uniform jumper or cardigan while learning. This is to emphasise this is school learning and needs to be completed to the standards expected in school. Also, it reinforces to all children the serious nature of this learning.
5. The sessions are not to be copied, or recorded in any way. Any further supporting videos will be placed on the learning platform for children to access
6. Children will not be able to access the live learning stream before the teacher has opened the lesson which will usually be about 2 minutes before the lesson will start.
7. If anyone accessing the online learning is considered to be behaving inappropriately the staff will make a request for an improvement in behaviour. If this is not seen the child may be removed from the live lesson. Work will still need to be completed.
8. All work set is to be completed by 3pm of the same school day and posted on the appropriate platform. Staff will endeavour, where appropriate, to provide suitable feedback.

In many cases the work children need to access will be posted onto their learning platform earlier than the designated day. This will provide an opportunity for parents to view them before a lesson starts.

While these measures may seem strong they are with the best interests of the children. We are not in a position to allow any further loss of learning for any children in any year group.

Staff will be following up children who do not attend the live sessions and do not complete work. All children who attend our live sessions will also be recorded as having attended sessions on our internal registers. This information will be passed onto the DfE as they have requested daily updates.

Online learning is undoubtedly not a complete answer to your child's needs but our proposed way of learning is ahead of many primary schools, and I am immensely proud of the whole staff team who have been working very hard to make it a reality. This is a steep and very rapid learning curve for us all and things may not be entirely smooth, but we would ask, that you, like us, persevere to ensure this home learning experience provides a high level of access to trained professionals.

I recognise we are asking a lot of everyone at this time but feel our continued strong working partnership will help every child in our school to continue to make progress in their learning journey.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please do contact us.

Kind regards

Mrs E Stewart
Headteacher

