

Head teacher: Mrs Annette Blewett

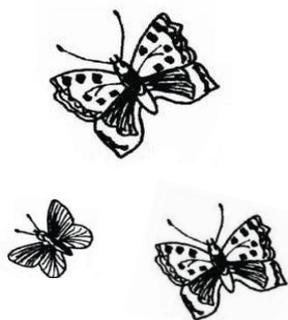
Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

High Barns Ely Cambridgeshire CB7 4RB

Tel: 01353 664742 Fax: 01353 666575

E-mail: office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk



29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Remote Learning Policy, Systems and Procedures – January 2021

I will begin this letter by thanking you all for your perseverance, dedication and most of all patience with us as a team working to get this new way of delivering learning the best that it can be. It is a challenge we had hoped we would not have to face again after last summer, but one every member of staff in the school has risen to. We know some styles of delivery suit some family situations and not others and we have tried to adapt as we have gone along to meet the needs of the vast majority of our children.

Timetabling what happens when, to ensure there are not clashes has been one of the most difficult areas to get right, but we think we are there now.

Teachers are striving to plan learning that a parent can navigate successfully with their child so that it is very clear what your child must practise to improve. They are also making sure they are introducing new learning so that progress needed is achieved, even though we are not in the classroom.

This week teachers have been collaborating to ensure there is a consistency and a clear and workable timetable that will remain the same, now we have established successful approaches. We are in the process of producing a frequently asked questions document, but this may not be ready for some time. Please continue to ask any questions you may have with your child's teacher. Hopefully after a number of weeks working in this different way, most concerns have been answered.

Each teacher will make it explicit to you which pieces of work are required each week for assessing progress and enabling decisions to be made about what we must teach your child next. As mentioned in the grid below, we cannot mark every piece that is sent to us, but we really value seeing as many pieces of work that have been produced.

We would also like to put a daily reading opportunity for your child in place, just as we would usually do when in school. This is problematic of course, because at this time, managing the collecting and changing of reading books is not practicable. We have located an on line provision which we are exploring further to ensure this will provide the level of professionalism that we expect.

Finally, for some of our children the amount of work we are providing may be significant and we fully understand that you may not be able to undertake it all. Please ensure you do what is manageable and get some fun play time in when you can each day.

Kind brave curious

A timetable overview for your child's year group is attached

If your child has a timetabled slot with a teaching assistant, then this will remain the same and will not be seen on the attached timetable, but sent separately.

An overview of key elements of live learning and what we provide and why.

Live Learning	<p>Each year group provide the amount of live learning they know they can both deliver (remember they are teaching in class also) as well as knowing what is needed by each child.</p> <p>Phonics teaching and learning is live because being able to read well is a high priority.</p> <p>Providing feedback so you know what your child is doing well at and what they need to get better at is essential. This will happen live often as the lesson is progressing.</p>
Pre-recorded or filmed learning and written tasks	<p>Oak Academy – The lessons are well structured and delivered by qualified teachers. Families can access the lesson at a time that suits their family organisation. These lessons are very suitable for all families and do not need to be accessed at a specified time.</p> <p>White Rose – These lessons are also professionally delivered and structured in line with what we would be teaching in school.</p> <p>Other online links are also used to enable remote learning. It is not live, but it is of a high quality. All pre-recorded learning is quality assured by the class teachers before it is sent home.</p> <p>Tasks we write down for your child to do are for practising purposes. I have mentioned practising already. I cannot stress enough the importance of practising to enable the mastering of a skill. I use the analogy of driving a car. We learn a lot when we first sit in the driving seat of a car. But, we have to practise and practise to become a driver who is able to pass a test. Then we have to practise more and more to become a skilled driver. Practice makes perfect.</p>
Work produced	<p>Each teacher is trying to make it very clear about what your child should produce when the task is set. It might be to write a story, or find objects that begin with a certain sound or record answers to number problems.</p> <p>We welcome seeing every piece of work done, taking a photo with your phone to send to use via Teams is perfect. Not everything you send to us can be marked. Some work that teachers set will be for your child to practise key skills. However, we would encourage you to send them in, so that teachers can evaluate visually how well they are doing.</p> <p>Each teacher must 'mark' the work sent. Some marking is very basic depending on age and what has been sent. A picture drawn or painted may receive a 'well done' comment or a 'fantastic colours used' comment. For more formal recording such as a final piece of writing after a long weeks worth of learning or a maths investigation process requires much more detailed marking and responses.</p> <p>Please send in each week what the teacher identifies. For the work that teachers have asked to be sent in, it is really important that the child produces the work themselves, so that teachers</p>

Kind brave curious

	can judge which elements of the work the child is confident with and which elements they need further practice in.
Marking and feedback	<p>You will receive a timetable of what we will be formally marking and feeding back to you on.</p> <p>Each year group will choose a different time to feedback so these do not clash with siblings.</p> <p>Some feedback will be in written form and mailed to you. Some feedback will be via a telephone call or a visual chat using TEAMS. Some feedback will happen live on the screen, especially in phonic lessons. Some feedback will be a thumbs up on the screen.</p> <p>The most important this to note is that feedback will tell you what your child is doing really well at and also what further practice is needed to master an important skill.</p> <p>As an infant school – we are the foundations of further learning. Getting the basic skills or reading and writing and number are crucial. It is also crucial that our feedback of all subjects fills a child with joy. Enabling the child experience success and feel positive about themselves.</p> <p>Keep your feedback to your child positive also.</p>

Please bear with us at this challenging time, we will clarify timetables and and work to strike a balance. I will write to you again on Thursday morning to update you on the plans going forward.

On a different note, we are all very aware of the safety concerns when using online approaches. I know all parents monitor what their child accesses on the screen. I will send some advice information to you to support this.

Yours sincerely

Annette Blewett
Head Teacher