

Home Online Learning and Teams – update! (KS1 and KS2)

As you'll be aware, as the school has been closed to most children since the start of term we have been providing a comprehensive programme of remote learning for all children, including live check ins and teaching, largely through Microsoft Teams. Despite some, perhaps unsurprising, technical teething problems, the levels of engagement across all year groups have been excellent so we would like to thank you so much for all of your efforts in helping to get your children involved in the sessions and assignments so far. We would also like to thank you for all the positive feedback and messages of support we have been receiving – these mean a great deal to us all, especially so at this time.

If you have any issues getting into Teams, Bug Club, Numbots or Times Tables Rock Stars, please get in touch with us by emailing the office or child's teacher. We may also be able to help you if you need to borrow a device to access online learning.

We are constantly evaluating on how the online learning programme is going and will continue to do so, reflecting upon your questions and feedback. Bearing this in mind, at this stage, we felt it worthwhile to clarify our responses to some of the key questions we are being asked:

Q: We appreciate all of the online Teams sessions teachers are providing but we are finding it really hard to attend all of them. Does it matter if they miss some?

A: We totally appreciate the difficulties that many parents have in supporting their children to attend all of the live Teams sessions – we understand that this can be challenging, particularly with younger children and where you have more than one child trying to attend. **So we accept that you may not be able to attend all of the live Teams sessions.** We are asking you to try and get your children to attend **at least 2 Teams sessions per day** – if you have more than one child, you may want to look at the timetables and balance which sessions each child attends or you feel is most beneficial – that is absolutely fine. Don't forget that we are trying to record all of the Teams sessions so usually you can access them at another time. Even if your child misses the Teams session, they should be still be tackling a task – whether that being a worksheet or assignment provided for that lesson or accessing a White Rose maths lesson or Oak Academy lesson (see below). The Department for Education has an expectation of 3 hours of remote learning per day for KS1 and 4 hours for KS2 children – this can include live or recorded sessions but also time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently.

We also acknowledge that you may not wish your child to have too much screen time and we are actively encouraging you to ensure your children have time allocated in their day for proper breaks, fresh air and exercise – this is very important for health and well-being.

Q: We want to be able to access and/or print out worksheets and assignments in advance of the live lesson input. Is that possible?

A: We will endeavour to ensure that all worksheets / assignments are available for you to access and (if necessary) print out at least a day in advance of the session. We appreciate that many of you will find this useful in organising the support of your child's learning – and may help you decide which live lesson inputs will be most useful for you to prioritise.

Q: Where can I find copies of worksheets / assignments or links to other activities?

A: Your child's teacher will save information and worksheets on Teams – if you look in your child's Team or Channel they will either be saved in 'Files' or in 'Assignments'. Your child's teacher will make it clear if it's an assignment that they particularly want to be returned to them for feedback and how you can return it to them. We also continue to make available a selection of worksheets (eg, maths sheets) on our school website: Enter the Infant/Junior School site: select 'Learning' from the tab at the top: then select Year Group Pages and find your child's year group page where you find links to White Rose Maths lessons and sheets, as are links to Oak Academy lessons and other resources. *Sometimes* these may not match perfectly with live Teams lesson input/task but do provide additional tasks should you not be able to access the materials on Teams. As with the previous 'lockdown' last year, links to more general learning and wellbeing resources are also available on the general 'Home Learning' page.

Q: Am I able to be provided with paper copies of worksheets?

A: If you get in touch with us we may be able to provide you a pack with paper copies of some of the worksheets, eg, Maths sheets, if necessary. We cannot guarantee all the worksheets / assignments that are on Teams will be in the pack.

Q: What if my child needs more help to understand or tackle an assignment?

A: Firstly, do encourage your child to 'have a go' and just do their best. We know it's not an ideal situation and do not want you or your child getting stressed about their learning or about getting it 'wrong'. We talk a lot in school about our 'Yatton Learner' behaviours including '**Resilience**' which involves providing an environment in which children keep trying, don't give up and feel able to 'have a go' even if it is 'tricky' and could lead to a mistake.

If your child is attending the 'live' input or feedback session, encourage your child to let your teacher know if they don't understand– the teacher may be able to give your child some extra support at the end. If not in the live session, you can email a question to your child's teacher.

We hope these answers address some of your queries or worries.

Please continue to feedback to us and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or issues regarding our online learning programme. We will continue to review, develop or 'tweak' what we are doing during this times as we all try to balance the importance of the children's learning with family wellbeing.