

5 February 2021

Message from the Governing Body

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to our last letter, the school governors have conducted a review of the remote/blended learning provision at school. We have considered feedback from the parent/carer survey, class teachers, the Senior Leadership Team and, of course, the 80+ emails received prior to the publication of the survey. A huge thank you for your 258 responses to the survey and for all your emails on this issue.

In brief, we are pleased that the school is more than fulfilling the Remote/Blended Learning Policy agreed in September. The school is not only delivering the full, broad curriculum, with a clear focus on core literacy and maths skills, but it continues to offer engaging learning opportunities aligned to the provision children would experience in school. These opportunities include learning Mandarin, accessing forest school groups, learning a musical instrument, and continuing our journey as a Rights Respecting School.

The school has selected an appropriate technology platform that enables children to engage with their teachers, complete tasks, receive feedback and collaborate with their peers in a safe and secure fashion. As with any such major change, the school has been monitoring what is working well and what can be improved. This was presented at the Curriculum and Standards meeting on 4th February.

Over the next few weeks therefore, parents and carers can expect to see a few changes to the policy and practice, including:

- Improved clarity of expectations: teachers will explain in their morning introductory video session, which learning needs to be posted and by when, which learning support will receive detailed feedback or marked and which tasks must be completed.
- Communications with parents and carers as to how much support parents and carers need to provide (will differ by age group).
- Daily live sessions – that can be flexibly used for social engagement/reteaching key concepts or methods/story times/targeted or drop-in support based on the teacher's assessment of best use. The times will be fixed but their function will vary. This will be timetabled across the school to avoid clashes.
- Prioritisation of 3-4 activities a day to help children, parents and carers plan their day and prioritise the content being taught.



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- Increased physical activity encouraged. An additional 'live' HITT session with our PE team and a daily physical activity session will be timetabled each morning.
- Workbooks to help relieve screen time – we are investigating maths and phonics books.
- Each class's daily schedule will be available to see by 8am.

The school will continue to monitor the daily engagement of the children and their progress throughout this lockdown and following the anticipated return to school.

The findings from the detailed review will be shared with you and published on the school website after the Full Governing Body meeting at the end of February. We would like to thank our Remote Learning governor Sarah Lima and Mandi for their meticulous and hard work on the review.

We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the school staff for their very hard work dedicated to providing the best possible learning experience for the children in these challenging circumstances as well as their continued support of the children's wellbeing.

Finally, I want to acknowledge on behalf of the Governing Body what a tough half-term this has been and to thank you all for persevering through the months. We know it has been incredibly challenging for you all at home juggling home schooling, your work priorities, family health and well-being and for many of you, your losses.

Your continued support and positive words have been really appreciated by the staff at school.

With all good wishes

Hilary Plant

Vice Chair

On behalf of Muswell Hill Primary School Governing Body

