

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer.

Firstly, thank you for your continued support during this difficult time. We understand how challenging these circumstances are, and we are working tirelessly to ensure that you and your families are supported as best as possible during the second wave of the pandemic. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any support you may need during this time. Together we will get through this as a team and we are already looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school, as soon as we are able to.

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place so that any child who cannot attend school because of the current COVID-19 guidance from the government. The government has stated that children who are at home during this time are required to participate in the same learning as children in school.

This letter explains our plans for remote learning for children who are accessing learning from home.

#### Our remote blended learning plan

Our remote learning plan has been made with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school.

EYFS children will access learning via Evidence Me. The information below explains the daily expectations for your child's learning both at home and at school.

We will be contacting parents/carers with login details as soon as possible. Please keep checking your emails. Nursery and Reception have been using Evidence Me since September and all children are set up and active. It is best if parents have downloaded the Evidence Me app when they were sent the email as this is easier to use through the app rather than via email. A video showing Nursery and Reception adults how to use Evidence Me will be posted on the schools Facebook site before Monday.

#### Device allocation

We are aware that some children do not have access to a device to enable them to complete blended learning at home. Devices that can be used to access Google Classroom include or Evidence Me: A Chromebook, a laptop, a PC, an iPad/tablet with the Google Classroom or Evidence Me app, a Smartphone (iPhone, Android), an Xbox or a Playstation.

Our blended learning plan is compatible with all of these devices as children will be recording their work in an exercise book which has been provided by school.

Where none of these devices are available, the government is beginning to allocate devices and internet facilities; however, these are being released in phases.

Phase 1 (timeline unavailable)

MORPETH ROAD ACADEMY Executive Headteacher: Mrs D Ward Head of School: Miss F Randell

The government allocates devices and internet routers at an academy level. These are then allocated to schools within the academy, based on government instruction. School will allocate to families.

#### Phase 2 (timeline unavailable)

School based devices are prepared for allocation and applications made for data boosters for those who are using Smartphones to access online resources. School will allocate to families.

#### Phase 3 (timeline unavailable)

The government will allocate further devices to support school. School will allocate to families.

There is no proposed timeline from the government as to when these devices will be available. We are available to discuss individual cases with families; however, pupils who are vulnerable or are registered as SEND will take priority (if they do not have a device in the home). We are unable to tell you when you will receive a device if your child is accessing blended learning at home.

	In school	Remote Learning	
Staffing	One Class Teacher in class per year group. Teaching Assistants to support ECHP children as usual Interventions/nurture to continue as usual with children tweaked if not in school	One Class Teacher per year group available to support your child to complete learning on Google Classroom between 08:30am and 3:30pm  If adults need support with work then they should send a message via Evidence Me. If you do not get a reply within 1 hour please ring school.	
Registration	Registration will be at normal times. Children will be welcomed into their classroom.	Morning: 9am online with Class Teacher Afternoon: 1pm online with Class Teacher Children who are not online will be contacted after each session to find out how best to support your child in accessing online learning.	
Lesson Timings	Staggered starts following usual timings. Lunch and play following usual timings Staggered collections following usual timings	Nursery and Reception have their timetable on the daily slides. Any live story sessions will be completed when the class are logged onto Google Meet or extra Google Meets will be added to allow for live story sessions.	
Where learning will be recorded	All learning will be completed as usual.	Nursery and Reception will take photographs of all of their work which they will complete in books or on paper and add this to Evidence Me.	
Feedback	Following the feedback policy in books, children's work will be marked	Nursery and Reception work will be commented on and approved when submitted to Evidence Me	
Break and lunchtimes	Breaktimes with OPAL resources Afternoon break time for each year group is being introduced during this time	Teachers will set work and share timings daily with children	
Lunches	Hot lunches will be served in school or a packed lunch provided from home	Lunch at home	

Uniform	Children to wear their school uniform as usual	Children to be up and dressed ready to learn in their school jumper	
PE	Children to come to school in their PE kit on PE day	PE at home in kit from home	
Communication	If your child has a place in school and they do not attend, please contact the school office to report their illness.	Where children are not accessing home learning a phone call will be made daily (during the day) if children have not logged into morning session/afternoon sessions/have not completed learning. This is so we can ensure we support all children to access their learning at home.	
SEND	Learning will be adapted to your child's needs as normal	Support will be added into the year group learning on Google Classroom. If your child is struggling to access any aspect of the learning, please get in touch with the Class Teacher via Evidence Me and we will support as needed.	

#### What you'll need at home

- A device that can access the internet, such as a laptop, desktop computer, tablet or smartphone
- An exercise book (which can be collected from school) or a similar work book. A pen/pencil and ruler.
- A quiet space where children can work without interruption
- Young children will need adults to work with them to complete the learning but they should allow their child to complete the work we do not want to see the beautiful colouring in or writing by the adult we need to see the child's work.

Arrangements for the collection of materials from school will be shared as soon as everything is ready.

## What we expect from your child

It's important that your child engages with home learning and keeps to their timetable.

If they aren't engaging with the learning, we'll use the following strategies to provide additional support:

- Phone call home after each registration if unanswered by the end of the day, a home visit will be carried out to find out how we can best support you and you children.
- For children who struggle to engage with online learning, a place in school (where safety measures are in place) is always available

## What you can do to help

We appreciate that if this situation arises, it may present some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

Younger children in particular may need support in accessing online materials and staying focused with their remote learning. We ask that you help them as much as you can.

At the same time, we don't expect you to watch your child all day, and we wouldn't expect parents/carers to get involved in remote lessons in place of our teachers. But, it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what they've learned.

Our top tips:

- Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed in their school jumper for the start of the school day, and to keep to their timetable.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you're having any difficulties with remote learning, or if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

**Executive Headteacher** 

# EXERCISE BOOKS/EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE TO COLLECT FROM SCHOOL ON MONDAY 11.01.2021 and TUESDAY 12.02.2021 BETWEEN 9:00am and 9:45am from the new TWO YEAR OLD PROVISION (please enter through the gate next to where you normally enter school from)

### **Nursery Timetable**

Monday to Friday			
9am	9am until 9.15am (approximately)	9.30am - 9.45am	Between 10am and 11.05 will be Early Years based learning
Registration	Phonics	Maths	During this session you may be invited (some days) to listen to a story being read by your class teacher.

Please remember that the children are very young and will need to be up and moving (which has been planned into the activities) but also please ensure that you allow your child to be active during the breaks on the timetable.

## Reception timetable

Monday to Friday					
9am	9.10am until 9.40am (approximately)	9.50am - 10.40am	11am - 11.45am	11.45 - 12.50	1pm until 3pm
Registration During this session	Phonics	English	Maths	Lunch	Topic based learning

you may be invited (some days) to listen to a story being read by your class teacher.		
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Please remember that the children are very young and will need to be up and moving (which has been planned into the activities) but also please ensure that you allow your child to be active during the breaks on the timetable.