



PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mrs A. Pratt
www.phjs.co.uk

8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support in starting our spring term online learning for most and onsite for some. Following the Government's latest announcement, we now know that the current lockdown will be in place until at least half term. We appreciate that the new restrictions in place put further pressure on families and we will continue to support you as much as we can. We are confident that we have a robust remote learning offer in place to support all children's learning, having reviewed our offer from the first national lockdown and listened to your feedback.

The start of this term has seen most pupils engaging well in their online learning. Thank you for your patience and support in helping your child(ren) to adapt to this style of learning again, especially in Year 3 where much is new. We know that your children will become increasingly more independent in managing their learning and we will continue to review our approach in order to ensure children are maximising every learning opportunity.

Remote Learning Provision

As we move to the second week out of the proposed seven weeks of this way of teaching and learning, we would like to send you some reminders as per **government guidance**.

- Registration online will take the place of registration on school premises. Therefore all pupils **must** register between the stipulated times of 9.00-9.15am for Y3&Y6, 9.15-9.30am for Y4&Y5. This is not optional. However, in exceptional circumstances please contact the school.
- All pupils' attendance will be coded according to the DfE requirements.
- All pupils are expected to complete the tasks set via Google Classrooms just as they would be expected to complete their learning during a school day.
- All Junior School aged pupils are expected to complete 4 hours of learning daily across a range of subjects. This is a marked increase from the previous lockdown and is a Government expectation that has been placed on schools.
- Pupils can use our daily drop-in sessions to clarify areas of their learning they are unsure of. Based on feedback from this week, the times of these drop-in sessions are changing to:
 - Year 6 - daily between 11:15-11:30am
 - Year 5 - daily between 11:30-11:45am
 - Year 4 - daily between 11:45-12:00pm
 - Year 3 - remaining daily between 12:00 - 12:15pm

These drop-in sessions remain optional for children who have questions about their tasks. Hopefully by moving the times earlier, it allows children additional time in the afternoon to complete their learning.



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- Pupils who have problems accessing their learning should contact their teachers immediately by messaging their teacher via Google Classroom or phoning the school office.
- From Monday, most lessons will be supported with a short video to introduce the new learning and/or task. This video may be recorded by one of the teachers within the year group or from online resources which we use. Based on feedback from the previous lockdown, we have decided to use videos as a teaching tool (rather than live lessons) to enable families the flexibility, given many members of our community are both working from home and supporting their children with their home learning.
- Where pupils are working 1:1 or in a small group with only one teacher, the session may be recorded for safeguarding purposes.
- Pupils who are having problems with their device/wifi/internet connection should also contact the school via email or phone call during school hours so the problem can be noted and rectified.
- Weekly assemblies start on Monday for class teachers and peers to have time together in a more relaxed Google Meet session where they may play games, complete team building activities or have a conversation about activities that have taken place recently. The times are as follows:
 - Monday 2:45 - 3:00pm - Year 3
 - Tuesday 2:45 - 3:00pm - Year 4
 - Thursday 2:45 - 3:00pm - Year 5
 - Friday 2:45 - 3:00pm - Year 6

Completing Tasks

We are doing our best to ensure all pupils have access to their online learning to enable them to make the same progress we would expect when they are in school. We therefore need your continued support for this to happen. We continue to have our same high expectations of every pupil and we expect all to try their best. Teachers, Support Staff and School Leaders are all aware of every child's potential, therefore learning which is substandard and/or lacking their usual effort is not expected to be submitted, just as it would not be expected or accepted during onsite learning. Thank you for your support.

Does my child have to complete tasks on the computer?

Although tasks are set on Google Classroom, your child may find it more appropriate to complete the tasks by hand and then upload a photograph to the room to share with their teacher. We are more than happy to receive tasks this way, and actively encourage children to have a break from the screen. If tasks cannot be uploaded, they can be emailed to the IT email address (it@phjs.foliotrust.uk) and it can be forwarded to the class teacher.

My child is receiving too much or too little remote learning set

Some parents have been in contact with staff members to request both less/more remote learning. We are required by the Department of Education to provide at least four hours of learning a day, and we hope the videos will be of help. From Monday, tasks will also show the amount of time that should be spent on the task, to help parents know what is expected from the pupils. Where possible, the tasks are designed to be completed independently and with limited equipment. The drop-in sessions are a live opportunity for children (not parents) to ask further questions if they do not understand a task or concept.

If your child wishes to complete additional learning, and has already submitted tasks to their teacher, a range of educational sites can be found at: <https://www.phjs.co.uk/curriculum/online-learning-support>



Home Learning: At this point in time home learning from the menu is optional.

Loaning equipment

Following the recent survey which was conducted to ascertain the equipment families have required, we have been able to issue loans of laptops which have been received from the DfE and a kind donation from one of our Local Advisors (Governors). Priority has been given to those families without any devices for their child to use. If your child does not have access to a suitable gadget, or is having to share with other family members, please contact the school as soon as possible.

If you wish to make use of the Government's scheme to increase your mobile phone data allowance at no additional charge, please read the privacy notice found [here](#) and then complete [this survey](#) as soon as possible.

This provision is available where families:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Training Day

Please be reminded that we will be carrying on with our planned Training Day on **Friday 29th of January** when school will be closed to all pupils and no online learning will be set for this day, whilst teachers complete their training.

Contacting the school

Our school office remains open as usual. This will be your first point of contact via email or phone call. The following email addresses will remain open, for you to communicate with staff members, should you need to. In addition, the Leadership Team email is available if you need confidential support.

office@phjs.foliotrust.uk (For general office enquiries)

phjssl@phjs.foliotrust.uk (For confidential support /request for school or FSM provision)

it@phjs.foliotrust.uk (For IT enquiries including Google Classroom/passwords)

safeguarding@phjs.foliotrust.uk (For safeguarding concerns and family support)

The staff will respond to emails between 9am and 4pm, and our phone line (020 8686 8623) will still be open.

Please ensure that we have the most up to date contact information for you - email address and two phone numbers. If you are aware of any families that may not have received this letter, we would be grateful if you could alert them that a copy can be found on our school website: www.phjs.co.uk/news-letters/letters

We would like to wish you all the best over the difficult weeks ahead. We will be in regular communication with you and very much look forward to welcoming all of the children back when it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Park Hill Junior School Leadership Team



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