

Parent/Carer feedback about remote learning



January 2020

Thank you so much for your time in feeding back to us your thoughts on our remote learning offer. We have reflected on your feedback to further develop or provide greater clarity over remote learning.

Overview

We had 154 responses. The overall sense of the feedback and comments we received was very positive. 95% of parents and carers feel the learning packs and videos are easy to follow and are supporting your children's learning. A similar percentage also feel that the wellbeing phone calls home are supportive. The vast majority of your written comments were also positive and we will ensure these are passed on to staff. Some parents have highlighted areas they feel we could improve on or change and we have tried to address those here.

We shared with you the government expectation that we provide 3 hours of daily work for children in EY/KS1 and 4 hours for KS2. About one third of our parents feel that this is a difficult expectation to manage. It is important to remember that not all families are the same and there will be different pressures depending on the age and number of children in the house as well as whether adults are also working from home. If time is limited, we would ask that you prioritise the reading, writing and maths learning to best support your child's return to school.

Feedback and Marking

97% of parents felt that the feedback their children are receiving regarding their remote learning is effective and supportive. Some parents queried the expectations on how much to upload and some raised concerns about teacher workload in responding to every piece of work from every child.

Do children need to upload every piece of work completed?

We encourage families to upload to ClassDojo any work the children have completed at home. This may be as separate photo or video or a combination of pieces of work within one image/collage.

Where children have worked especially hard on a piece of work, we would ask parents to let know this in the comment box. If children have struggled on a specific question, please can parents also add a comment to inform teachers.

Feedback and marking expectations for teachers:

All work uploaded to ClassDojo will be viewed and approved by class teachers in a timely manner. Class teachers will make a judgement about when it is most appropriate to give fuller, more in-depth comments. Examples of this are likely to include: where a pupil has made a mistake; where the child's work could be improved further; to celebrate significant effort and to offer suggestions for additional challenge. Some work may be marked as 'returned as draft' with suggestions for improvement from the teacher.

Engagement:

We know from your comments that the feedback from staff has greatly supported children's engagement with the learning at home. Many have highlighted how well children have responded to these and that it helps them continue to feel connected to the school. Where we feel children are struggling to engage, we will contact families to see how we can support further.

Live Lessons

Some parents raised the prospect of live lessons. This is an approach we have considered however many more parents have identified that the recorded lessons allow greater flexibility. They have shared concerns that live lessons would be difficult to manage with multiple children or when also working from home themselves. Live lessons with more than one child would also require multiple devices which we know will not be possible for all families.

This week we will be running some live wellbeing lessons for classes in Year 5 and 6. We will reflect on these before considering the feasibility of doing this across the school.

Maths Lessons

In the comments box, some parents asked about additional teacher led videos for maths alongside those from White Rose. We recognise that it is different for children when a teacher delivers a lesson than when it by an unknown adult. We are keen that children engage fully and so going forward there will be more of a combination of the White Rose videos alongside teacher videos for maths.

ClassDojo

There were some requests for videos to be uploaded the evening before. This may happen sometimes however we cannot commit to this. Not everyone has the same internet strength when working at home and some staff have found uploading their videos is very slow.

Some parents do not like the number of alerts they receive from ClassDojo. This may be especially true if you have more than one child at the school. Parents should be able to disable the notifications from ClassDojo and then simply login at a convenient time:

<https://classdojo.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360050778411-Notifications-and-Your-Parent-Account#web>

Resources

96% of parents felt that the remote learning resources are easy to access. We have since phoned those who found this harder to see how we can help.

Additional resources and support were asked for. We have now created a page on our website containing a selection of additional resources such as our handwriting lines which match those children use in school, maths challenges and word mats for phonics. We will update this page and inform parents when new resources are available:

<https://pevenseschool.org.uk/learning/lockdownresources>

We have purchased some lined and squared paper exercise books. These are available for parents to pick up at any time from the front office to support children with recording their work at home and maintaining high levels of presentation. Please only take one of each book per pupil.

Thank you so much for your feedback. Once again, we fully appreciate how challenging it will be for some families in delivering the remote learning.

We are here to help so please contact us if you feel we can be supportive in any way.