

# Success for All



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7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

## Remote learning guidance for parents and carers

Following on from the Lockdown announcement and a move back to remote learning. I wanted to provide you with an indication of what you could expect. As a senior leadership team, we have looked at the experiences over the past 6 months, children isolating individually and the class which had to isolate as a bubble. From these experiences and looking further afield what other schools are offering we have set a minimum expectation across the school for what we feel will engage children, provide content, set expectations for completion of work and provide specific individual feedback.

It is not possible to replicate the school learning environment through remote teaching, children should not be expected to work for the 6.5 hours (8:45-3:15) that they are in school as this includes socialisation, whole school events etc. Government guidance was to provide a minimum of 3 hours a day, on average (clearly Y5/6 would be expected to complete more than Y1/2) it has now been increased for KS2 to 4 hours. One common misconception that we do need to address is what is meant by 'remote' teaching. Remote does not mean video live (although it can), but simply identifies teaching taking place away from the school site. This can be through recorded video/audio, written materials, links to suitable resources etc.

At present our delivery method is via email, which both parents and teachers are familiar with. You will have received TEAMS access for your child and we will be moving all resources across to TEAMS over the next few days. TEAMS is a way of getting content to a group – a method of communicating. Although we have been using this to deliver remote assemblies (both class and whole school) since September and had specific TEAMS training on our professional day in case of a lock down, it will take time for teachers to become proficient and children to get used to using it. We are focusing on what is educationally most beneficial as professional educators. Nene Valley have always focused on a high quality of teaching and learning and our remote offering will continue to have this as an expectation.

Whilst we have spent considerable time, effort and resource to be set up to utilise TEAMS for the delivery of content, the last-minute nature of the lockdown announcement meant that teachers had already planned all of the content for delivery on site. Delivery at home is by its very nature different and has to be re-planned, and this takes time. The resourcing to enable this to happen is very different in every school.

The content we will provide is as follows;

- Daily work set; including an element of English, maths and a curriculum area; a video/ audio annotated PowerPoint to give input. This will be sent/ added to TEAMS daily.
- As a minimum 5 times a week, teachers will have live contact; this will take many forms.



- The work your child does should ideally be returned daily, so they keep up with the learning and provide feedback as we have a requirement to monitor how children are engaging with work.
- As a minimum twice a week, teachers will provide specific audio feedback to individual children's work.
- A timetable for the day.
- Rewards and celebrations

The daily work is planned to take between 3-4 hours to complete, not every child works at the same speed so reflection on what they have completed/ self-checking are important and what we would direct in an in school environment. Children correct in red pen in school, so if you have access to a red pen, English work should be self-corrected by the child.

The video/ audio annotated Powerpoint will either be school created or direct you to resources we may use in school such as; WhiteRose (for maths), Oak Academy (for English/ Curriculum) or something specific to the class/ age group.

Live contact will look differently depending on the age of the children. In year 1 and 2 we will be delivering phonics lessons, in years 3-6 initially we will have whole class discussions via the chat function. As staff become more proficient live video will be added.

The audio feedback is not a critique of your support – it is a guide to what to do next and what we would do as part of a normal lesson. This element is essential to children's learning and would occur during lessons both individually, for groups and whole class. (This element of teaching is very difficult to replicate online).

The Daily timetable is for you to use as required. It does support structure and the children are used to working to one in school. It may help if you are having difficulties motivating your child, your child's class teacher is expecting you to be reading for the next 15 minutes, may help.

Rewards and celebrations will continue to aid child engagement, so teachers will award house points for work that is of a high standard for that child, Gold Head Teachers stickers will also be used for work submitted and the Friday Nene Valley Award will continue to be given out.

Miss King has also discovered a PE website which will allow your child to safely upload a video and get written feedback on a variety of active tasks. You will receive a separate email explaining how to use this fun facility.

Finally please remember that supporting your child at home is difficult, we do not expect you to be teachers, you are caring parents and so have a different relationship with your child to us as educators. Therefore please do your best to get them to complete some work and send it in then allow us to provide focused feedback to children. Teachers cannot replicate what they would do in school via remote live lessons. Although our staff are gifted teachers they are not necessarily gifted presenters, which is what broadcast content is. And a gifted presenter does not necessarily present quality learning.

Thank you once again for all the positive support for Nene Valley staff, they do get to see every comment that comes in and the comments are very much appreciated in this difficult time.

Regards,

Mr N File  
School Leader  
Nene Valley Primary

Below are the Government expectations for all schools; secondary and primary:

1. Set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects



2. Set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, and as a minimum: primary: 3 hours a day, on average, across the school cohort; secondary: 4 hours a day, with more for pupils working towards formal qualifications this year
3. Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos
4. Have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern
5. Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks, and provide feedback, at least weekly, using digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate
6. Enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding.