



Thursday 21st January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Enhancements to our Remote Learning, going live on Monday 25th January 2021

We want to start by reiterating our sadness about not being able to have our whole school community together. We do not underestimate how immensely frustrating and challenging it is for those of you having to support your children in their home learning, during this dreadful phase in our lives.

As we mentioned in last week's newsletter, we have been pleased to receive feedback from many parents, saying that the style of our remote learning provision is working well for your children. In particular, we are aware that many households find it essential to be able to timetable their child(ren)'s viewing of the teacher-led videos, around adult work schedules or the needs of siblings.

We have had requests from a number of parents for some sort of live interaction between teachers and pupils, and we believe this facility is important in enabling pupils at home to ask questions of their teachers and receive answers in real-time and also in supporting the mental well-being of pupils, by way of social interaction with their teacher and their peers.

Over the last two weeks, we have been monitoring and reviewing our remote learning provision and last week made the decision to make some enhancements which we hope you will appreciate.

1. To offer a daily live Learning Review session for those pupils learning at home.

Teachers will open up a Zoom meeting so that pupils in the group can talk to their teacher, ask questions, get feedback, share any concerns. These sessions will be offered in the same time slot each day; see actual times below. Pupils are strongly encouraged to take part. Teachers will share the link for their individual class via Class Dojo; that link will be the same one needed daily.

The daily live Learning Review is for any pupils working at home on that day. This might include those at home for only some days of the week, or pupils normally in school, but currently isolating as well as those learning at home every day. Whilst we recognise that some families may have constraints due the timetabling needs of the family, we do encourage all pupils to take part as often as they are able.



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Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Emily Massey

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Daily time slots for Learning Review:

Reception - 11.30 am
Year 1 - 11.30 am
Year 2 - 1.00 pm
Year 3 – 2.30 pm
Year 4 – 1.30 pm
Year 5 – 1.30 pm
Year 6 – 2.00 pm

The teacher will open the meeting at the allocated time and will be there for the full 30-minute slot. Pupils should aim to join the meeting from the start, but will still be welcome if they are occasionally late joining.

2. **To offer a weekly live Well-being Session to all pupils in the class** between either 3.45 and 4.15pm, or between 4.15 and 4.45pm on the same afternoon each week. Teachers will open a Zoom meeting for the whole class. There will be a teacher-led activity of some sort, to give a focus to the session, which might be, for example, 'Show and Tell', mindfulness, story-time, or sharing a piece of work each. This is an opportunity for pupils to have some social interaction with their teacher and their classmates, both those learning in school and those learning at home.

Teachers will share the link for their individual class via Class Dojo; that link will be the same one needed weekly.

The **weekly live Well-being session** is for all the pupils in the class, whether they were in school on that day or learning at home. Again, we do encourage all pupils to take part as often as they are able.

The days and times are as follows:

Reception	Wednesdays, 3.45 to 4.15 pm
Year 1	Thursdays, 3.45 to 4.15 pm
Year 2	Mondays, 3.45 to 4.15 pm
Year 3	Mondays, 4.15 to 4.45 pm
Year 4	Wednesdays, 4.15 to 4.45 pm
Year 5	Tuesdays, 3.45 to 4.15 pm
Year 6	Tuesdays, 4.15 to 4.45 pm

The teacher will open the meeting at the allocated time and will be there for the full 30-minute slot. Pupils should aim to join the meeting from the start, but will still be welcome if they are occasionally late joining.



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3. To transfer the provision of the remote learning from the school website to the “Class Story” section of the Dojo platform.

At the start of remote learning in the spring of 2020, we chose to use our website as the medium for sharing the learning resources with pupils at home. Whilst we know that this has worked well in many ways, we now believe that there are more advantages for pupils, for teachers and for parents, in this learning being hosted on Class Dojo. Dojo offers a platform only accessible to those for whom it is intended, with all the work brought together in a streamlined way. We also feel that hosting the learning on the same platform that we are now using for feedback, will create a closer link between learners and their teacher. Whilst we understand that this will require pupils and parents to adjust to a platform that looks a little different from what you have become accustomed to accessing, we believe that once it is up and running and you have become comfortable in its use, it will be quicker and easier to use and more user-friendly than our current set up.

Linking to the year group on Class Dojo

We know that the majority of you have already linked up with your child’s class on Dojo so you will recognise the format. To ensure the setting of work is consistent across year groups, your child’s class has now been incorporated into a year group setup. Please use the relevant link below to link your child into their year group. Your child’s Class Story will then include all the relevant materials for their learning.

Reception: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=C64FSVX>

Year 1: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CBXCXY>

Year 2: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=C5E27NT>

Year 3: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CRWSGN7>

Year 4: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CDA3FYP>

Year 5: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CNBTM9J>

Year 6: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CRK2F8X>

Should you need help with Dojo, first try their help pages which are fairly comprehensive and user-friendly.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team have access to each year group in Dojo, for consistency and monitoring purposes, but this will not be a communication channel. Parents wishing to contact Senior Leaders or teachers, should continue to do so via email to the school office.

Consent for Live sessions on Zoom

In order for your child(ren) to participate in these live sessions on Zoom, you need to have read the agreement called “Zoom Acceptable Use Agreement”,

<https://www.wasp-school.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Zoom-Acceptable-Use-agreement-WASPS-updated-21-01-21.pdf>

and indicated your consent, via the Forms questionnaire, available on this link:



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<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=zZ6YsabqO0yP9KPU4ErasN7Rd51rmhIDmqny8BSULIxUMIRKQVRJWUZMWU9XVjEwREFPTU8xV0JYUS4u>

In the “Zoom Acceptable Use Agreement” document, the required protocols for this medium to work effectively for everyone, need to be observed by the pupils. Naturally, we expect that it will take a little while for children to learn how to participate appropriately, but we anticipate that quite quickly, they will get used to it and find it to be a fun and useful part of their learning.

We are putting these enhancements in place from Monday 25th January.

Illness

In the event of staff illness, a session will only go ahead if another staff member is available. If it is necessary for a session to be cancelled, a note will appear on Dojo.

If your child is ill, of course we do not expect them to be continuing with home learning until they are fully well again. Please make sure your child’s teacher is aware if this is the case.

Finally...

We really hope that the information we are providing will give you everything you need in order to access these enhanced features of our provision. Naturally, you are welcome to email the school office with any concerns you are unable to resolve.

We are trying really hard to support all our pupils and parents, with almost every family in their own unique situation. We can see that you all have differing challenges.

We look forward with great enthusiasm to the day when all of this is behind us, and we can once again all be together.

We end by thanking you again, as ever, for your tremendous commitment to making all this work, and hope that the enhancements described above, will add another element of support for your children.

We shall continue to review our provision on a regular basis, as we always do.

With our very best wishes,
The Senior Leadership Team:

Sarah Halls, Headteacher
Sharon Badger, Deputy Headteacher
Amanda Trim, Assistant Headteacher
Chris Treble, Assistant Headteacher



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