



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

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9th January 2021

Dear Windmills Parents

Please note the following adaptations to the Remote Learning letter which was sent out yesterday.

Windmills Remote Provision

Thank you for your patience as we have striven to get information out to you and plan for the weeks ahead. Thank you so much for engaging with the activities that have been set on eSchools this week. We would very much like to increase our contact with children through including some 'zoom' sessions across the week.

Expectations during this Time

Weekly Timetable We are providing a weekly timetable for Reception highlighting when the whole class and group Zoom sessions will be and this will be found on the school website and eSchools. We have also listed activities that should be completed daily and those that can be completed across the week. There will be a mixture of Zoom sessions, recorded sessions provided by the Reception staff, links to external provider videos such as White Rose Maths and Read Write Inc Phonics and eSchools Projects created by the teachers with activities.

Due to the importance of play and child led learning in Early Years we recognise that you may need to adapt the activities to suit your child and take the objective of the activity, but do it in the context your child is playing in. Giving children the opportunity to follow their own interests during the day is also important. We also understand that you may also be juggling home working and the needs of different children, so we aim for our provision to be as flexible as possible.

Whole Class Zoom Sessions We will be offering three whole class story sessions a week for Reception children, siblings and parents are welcome to watch too, please refer to the E-Safety Pupil Code of Practice. Please ensure that once we have welcomed everyone that your microphone stays muted so that everyone can enjoy the story. If we are recording these sessions we will ask you also to also turn your camera off. Recorded sessions will show the teacher only and will be added to the 'Let's share a story' Project on eSchools.

Group Zoom Sessions Next week, we plan for all Reception children to have two group Zoom sessions. These sessions will all be recorded as part of our safeguarding procedures but will not be shared on eSchools. Being part of the live group session is a great opportunity for your child to socialise 'virtually' with their peers and teachers. It will enable us all to stay in touch and will focus on developing social, communication, language and listening skills. You may sit with your child if you wish, equally you can leave them once they are welcomed into the session. Some children like this independence and join in more if their parent isn't there! Please be ready to help with technical issues though. If your child misses their session, please message through eSchools and we will try to add you to another group later that morning.

Links for all the Zoom sessions will be sent out by the teachers via eSchools and these will be 'recurring meetings' so the same link can be used each week.

Registers will be kept, logging children that attend the group sessions, please let us know if your child is not able to attend a session so that we are not waiting for them. We know that many Reception children are now familiar with attending family Zoom calls as it has been so much part of our lives over the past year. We hope that your child attends the live lessons if they possibly can and will work with parents to help overcome any difficulties they have accessing this.

Safeguarding

Recordings of the story times will only be uploaded to eschools and therefore only accessible to those who have the username and password so if there is an error and children do appear on the recording, it will **not** be in the public domain. It is therefore essential that schools usernames and passwords are not shared and that all households follow the 'code' previously signed as part of the paperwork when your child started school. (see Code of Conduct sent by the office)

Uploading of Work and Marking

Please upload photos and comments about what your child is doing on to your child's Tapestry account by adding an 'observation'. This then builds on their school learning journey for their Reception year. At the end of the school year you will be given access to a downloadable version of your child's full learning journey.

Please don't feel you need to photograph everything your child does, but instead provide an idea of how your child is getting on with the activities. Upload a few photos of your child, some of the things they make or do and a couple of the worksheets/pictures they draw. Please also provide a short comment about how they got on with the activity. Did they work independently or need quite a lot of help. Please also feel free to add other photos of what the children choose to do at home e.g. cooking, craft, going on a walk.

You can upload to Tapestry daily, every few days or weekly. However, it is helpful if you give an indication of whether the work is from:

one activity e.g. *Maths – counting to 5* or *Space rocket fun*

one day e.g. *Tuesday's learning*

more than one day e.g. *Monday and Tuesday's activities*

a weekly update e.g. *Week One Home Learning*

We do need to ask that you are in contact at least weekly on Tapestry so that we can see how everything is going.

A member of the Windmills staff will then comment on each observation on Tapestry. Please read our feedback and share our comments with your child. Teachers may also offer advice and suggestions for supporting your child or extending them with next steps. If you find the work is too hard or too easy please include this in your comments or send a message via eSchools so that we can suggest ways to adapt the activities.

Please bear with us next week in particular as we adapt to this new way of working and establish manageable systems moving forward.

Thank you once again for your support at this somewhat challenging time. It has been wonderful seeing all the exciting learning the children have been doing at home. We very much hope that over the next few weeks, life will become calmer and more straightforward for all concerned.

Kind regards

Mrs J Wale