



www.stocksbridge-jun.sheffield.sch.uk

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It has truly been the most interesting and unexpected first week back! Although there were rumblings on the news last week of school closures, once school opened on Monday, none of us expected the sudden announcement that was made on Monday night.

However, as always, Team Stocky never disappoint. Our home learning contingency plans swung into place efficiently, with our children, parents and staff all playing their part to ensure high quality learning could continue at home.

We have also been working hard within the school building, distributing food hampers, allocating technology and generally trouble shooting, whilst also establishing in-school provision for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.

Thank you for supporting us in these difficult times and for helping all our Stocksbridge family to stay connected. We're stronger together, even when we're apart.

SJS STARS OF THE WEEK

- Y3AH: David Staniforth
- Y3CP: Logan Clarke
- Y3RD: Thomas Fox

- Y4KT: Poppy Newton
- Y4RL: Imogen Goddard

- Y5CS: Tayla Corcoran
- Y5DW: Amelia Underhil
- Y5HK: Archie Jowitt

- Y6ER: Olivia Foster
- Y6MC: Henry Sabin
- Y6CH: Grace Jowitt

PE Star: Skye Pawson

REMOTE LEARNING

Having now got to the end of the first week of remote learning, we would like to remind parents of our remote learning offer:

- A daily class Zoom at 9:30am for the children to have live, face-to-face interaction with their teacher and each other. The link to Zoom will be posted as an 'activity' on Seesaw for children to access.
- Learning activities posted on Seesaw, which mirror the curriculum which would have been taking place had the children been in the classroom. Whilst some of these activities will require your child to complete them online, we hope to provide a balance of activities that may be completed away from the screen and then uploaded as a simple photograph.
 - English including reading and spelling activities
 - Maths including times table practice
 - A foundation subject lesson e.g. music, art or PE
 - A 'school norm', for example, access to the class read or Celebration Assembly
- Constructive feedback from the teacher on Seesaw contributions.

As with everything we do, we have tried to make well-considered and informed decisions about how we develop remote learning in line with national guidance. We hope our offer is aspirational but also realistic within the capacity of both our staff in school and accessible for children at home. We hope that our remote learning offer enables pupils and teachers to remain connected, provides continuity of learning for our pupils and is also mindful of the workload of our teaching staff and parents at home. This recent article from the TES discusses two of the different approaches schools have been taking: <https://www.tes.com/news/coronavirus-schools-online-learning-are-live-lessons-really-better-recorded-ones>

If you have any questions, comments or feedback regarding our blended learning approach, please do get in touch.

TECHNOLOGY

The government are providing laptops and tablets to schools to support remote education. All secondary schools have been invited to order their allocation of devices and primaries will be invited to order in the coming weeks, starting with the most disadvantaged areas in England. We feel it is unfair to disadvantage any of our pupils by waiting for the government scheme and have begun preparing the iPads we have in school in order to loan this out to children learning at home until we are able to place our order. Mrs Lea-Jones is collating requests for this small stock of devices and hopes to begin distributing them early next week. All loans are only for the duration of lockdown and are subject to parents signing a loan agreement form.

To further support disadvantaged children, the government are providing internet connections where they are needed. If you do not have a broadband connection within your household, please contact school.

ON-SITE PROVISION FOR CHILDREN OF CRITICAL WORKERS

Children of critical workers may access the provision within school when there is no possible alternative childcare available within the household or childcare bubble. Children who are classed as vulnerable are also required to be in school each day.

We have been inundated with requests for children to attend school. Whilst we are doing everything we can to accommodate, we must also ensure we keep the number of contacts to an absolute minimum to help reduce transmission of the virus and also ensure our capacity in school is used by parents whose work is most critical to the pandemic response. It is essential that we have the staffing capacity to deliver both remote and face-to-face learning simultaneously.

To enable us to meet the demand for places, we politely request that eligible parents only use this provision on the days when there is no other option for childcare. Please do not send your child to school because you can; please only book their place in school for days it is absolutely necessary.

Any new requests for provision within school should be emailed to l.ross@stocksbridge-jun.sheffield.sch.uk along with written confirmation of eligibility from critical workers' employer. The list of critical workers can be found on the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website.

CALLER ID

It is commonplace nowadays that we often screen telephone calls which appear 'no caller ID' to avoid sales calls, surveys or phishing scams. With many of our class teachers currently teaching remotely from home, they may need to call you to check in with your child and will withhold their number. If you do receive a 'No Caller ID' call it may well be your child's class teacher. Please answer – we promise not to try to sell you something!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

This week, we have distributed 88 food hampers to families of our children registered for free school meals. We are hopeful that Sheffield City Council will launch the electronic voucher scheme in the same way as they did during the first lockdown but we are yet to hear details of this. We will keep you informed.

A small number of families have requested that we pass on their hamper to another family in need. We do not want any of our families to struggle. If your family would benefit from a hamper or you know of a family who could do with a little more help at this time, please just get in touch.

Similarly, if you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office and we can advise you how to complete the quick and straightforward application.

READING AROUND THE WORLD

Please continue to note your child's daily reads in their diary so they can progress on their journey towards each reading destination. The earliest date for reaching their third destination is Tuesday 3rd February. If your child arrives at their first destination (30 reads since 2nd September) or second destination (30 more reads since 2nd November) in the meantime, they should let their teacher know during a morning Zoom so we can send them their postcard.

Y3 - PARIS

Cordelia Hibbert
Lottie Siddall
Oscar Edwards
William Edwards
Aurelia Cottam
Carson Bullimore

Y5 - BEIJING

Charlie Butcher
Eve Horsfield
Ava Pedler

Y5 - TOKYO

Jake Crooks

PARENTING PROGRAMME

Alongside this newsletter, we have sent home Sheffield Parenting Hub's 'What's On Guide' which details the support groups, seminars and courses available to support parents across the city. The booklet was published before news of the current lockdown, but since all events had been planned to run virtually via Zoom, we would hope everything in the booklet is still running as planned.

SJS COVID-19 WEBPAGE

Our webpage ensures parents can access to the latest COVID information from school and Sheffield news and resources. Please visit <https://www.stocksbridge-jun.sheffield.sch.uk/covid-19-parent-information/>



HM Government



Act like you've got it.
Don't accidentally spread coronavirus.



Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 don't have any symptoms, but can still pass it on. **And now there is a new strain of the virus which spreads even faster.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks; however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.

