



**DOWNSEND
SCHOOL**

Inspiring Young Minds

18 March 2020

Dear Parents

Everyone in school has been working hard to be ready to continue education through a period of school closure. We have identified an online learning platform, trained staff and are currently completing the last little bits of our strategy. As such we are ready to share information with parents. We have no information regarding a school closure but are ensuring everyone within our community is informed and prepared.

Remote learning phase

School days 1 – 5 will be referred to as the remote learning phase. During this time, a home learning pack will be provided by your child's class teacher to provide activities and maintain routine for the children over the course of the 5 days.

The remote learning phase enables the teachers to finalise their preparation for the next stage. While they have been preparing over the last few weeks, they have also been maintaining their day to day teaching commitments and attending additional training so the extra time is needed.

Online learning phase

School day 6 will be the beginning of the online learning phase where learning will be delivered through daily activities provided by the teachers through an online platform called Seesaw. More information, including signing up to Seesaw, will follow when we move into the remote learning phase.

Seesaw is an interactive platform where teachers can deliver learning and activities but children can also submit work to their teacher for feedback.

When in the online learning phase, work and activities provided will be:

FS – a daily activity with a story

RR – 2 daily activities with a story

R - 2 daily activities with a story

Y1 - 3 daily activities (a maths, writing + 1 other) with a story

The stories will be videos of teachers reading stories aloud to ensure the children maintain day to day contact with their teacher. In addition to the above, a menu of generic activities alongside useful websites will be provided to supplement the daily activities for parents who would like it.

We anticipate that our first week of online learning will be trial and error for teachers, parents and children while we all learn how to find our way forward together. As we develop our own learning, we will update and amend our strategy as needed.

What next?

Parents do not need to do anything now.

Should we move into the remote learning phase, we have a plan in place to support and prepare parents for the online learning phase. This plan would come into effect from day 1 of the remote learning phase.

As always we thank you for your ongoing support and understanding through these difficult times.



Mrs Vanessa Conan



Mrs Tessa Roberts