

Waterside Primary School



Empowering Learners to Achieve Dreams

Eastwood Road, Stoke On Trent, ST1 3JS



Executive Headteacher: Jo Knowles

Head of School: Jane Gaskell

Tel: 01782234630

Email: office@watersideprimary.org.uk

Website: www.waterside.stoke.sch.uk

12th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Let me begin by thanking all of you who so swiftly responded to our urgent request on the 5th January 2021 to inform us if you required in school provision or remote learning, your efficiency certainly supported our planning process, which had to be rapid. It has certainly been an extremely busy week since the announcement and one of the most challenging in my nine years of headship and for Miss Gaskell as a new Head of School.

Another new week, day and hopefully, a little more clarity...I know that our remote learning and keyworker vulnerable pupils' package is not quite the same as the face-to-face wonderful world of Waterside Primary School (Droplet School) but let me assure you that we will all continue to provide the very best provision possible because Waterside Primary is fortunate to have a Dream Team of staff that are committed to making the learning as closely matched to that in school. Continued engagement in learning remains statutory regardless of where the learning is completed and as such it is essential that all pupils complete the work set – this will support their progress and transition back to school hopefully after half term.

Reflecting upon the responses and positive feedback we have received along with reflection of how this 1st week back has gone, we have been able to formulate further plans which I wanted to share with you all as soon as possible and we will build our provision over the next 3 weeks to offer live teaching as well as our pre-recorded teaching to ensure teaching is reactive to the needs of learning offering outstanding feedback to pupils.

Key details for **all learners**:

- Safeguarding and our children's well-being is ALWAYS our top priority and we are contactable as usual to discuss any worries or concerns you may have regardless of if your child is attending school or not! Every child/parent will have a phone call once a week as a minimum if they are learning remotely as well as daily communication via Class dojo and email.
- All children will complete the same learning provided by teachers and facilitated by parents for those at home, and school staff for those attending school. This will be in line with the school timetables that will be emailed out at the start of the week and continue to be published daily on our website.
- Free School Meals – we are waiting full details regarding FSM arrangements and will forward to those families as soon as we are able although we are offering a food package weekly for collection should you need.
- We will be delivering early next week, home learning packs to all children learning at home or in case of bubble closure. These include exercise books to complete learning in. Should you require any other bespoke items, please contact the class teachers and request.

Key details for **remote learners**:

- Quality remote learning will be set daily through the School website, dojo and email which the children are all familiar with and pupils will from Monday 11th January be uploading learning onto portfolios to allow teachers to give feedback and support electronically. A dojo advice for portfolio will be sent out for parents this weekend.
- To offer the highest quality of learning we will also be moving towards morning live delivery over the next three weeks. In the meantime, outstanding pre-recorded learning will continue. We will be using 'TEAMS' for this and week commencing 11th January, we will be phasing this out to 25% of the school. Please do not panic – we will support you in the transition and being able to set up to access the learning.
- We will be doing our very best to make our provision as varied and interactive as possible whilst staffing also the in-school provision. We have staff set to key roles and expect all learners to be logged online or commencing learning for 8.50am to start their morning tasks till 9am. Then prompt formal learning will begin. Staff will be phoning if pupils are not online or sending learning in to ascertain the reasons for attendance coding. Throughout the morning – feedback will be given to learners about their learning. We will be using this to update the pupil's assessment folders so we can still monitor where they are at, what their next steps are and ensure learning is well matched to the needs of your child.
- If you (or your child) have any questions regarding the learning set, your first means of communication is through the ClassDojo message feature. Responses will be as efficient as possible but please be aware that teachers will have some face-to face commitments in school as well as remote responses so these may not be immediate. As always, if you require any urgent support, please call the school as usual as admin and senior staff will be available to help you.
- All home learners are asked to register at 8.50 – 9am by responding to the virtual question asked by their class teacher on dojo (Eventually online with teams).

Key details for **in-school learners** (children of key workers and vulnerable children):

- We have arranged for all pupils requiring in-school provision to be allocated a set year group bubble with no more than 16 pupils and bubbles of staff teams to minimise mixing and support learning provision. We currently are operating no staff rotas to ensure that remote learning, live teaching, and interventions can continue as normal for the learning needs of pupils. This is of paramount importance.
- Parents are to keep us informed should your rota or needs change
- As a result of reduced numbers, ALL pupils will enter the school site via normal entrance points and into their classrooms at their allocated staggered start time; we continue to request all parents follow the current safety measures including social distancing, wearing masks etc. Pupils will follow a one-way system and enter the school building through allocated doors to avoid bubble mixing (staff will be on hand to direct as always!)
- At the end of the school day staggered finished times will continue. The one-way system and bubbles will be lined up in their zones or collection points for dismissal – pupils with permission to walk home/leave the site unaccompanied will be dismissed first and then parents will collect as currently the case – again staff will direct as required.
- Hot school meals are available to all children and will be provided as usual to those attending school (although the menu may be modified), or your child may bring a packed lunch.
- Children attending school should wear their school uniform but may wish to wear an extra layer (vest/skin) as classrooms will be ventilated making them slightly cooler due to the current weather.
- Children should bring school equipment, water bottles into school as usual. These will be stored in their classroom to prevent mixing.
- On their PE day, children will attend in their sportswear. This is in line with the PE expectations of the uniform policy.

Timetables

Pupils in school will receive the typical timetable as per Autumn Term and Remote learners will have the full access with full pre-recorded teaching; but live teaching will increase over the next four weeks.

We appreciate that the remote learning is different to the 1st lockdown, as per the government guidelines and significantly raised expectations. We aim to offer to all our children the government expectations and more. We have completed the whole school remote learning plan, and this will be published on the school website.

To outline to parent the revised learning enrichment for all pupils developing over January 2021.

Remote Learning Plan	Morning	Afternoon	After School
W.C 11 th January 2021	Pre Recorded learning for all year groups Trials of live teaching for key year groups. More information to follow	Pre Recorded learning for all year groups Safe and Well checks Feedback on learning SEN learning packs	Not applicable.
W.C 18 th January 2021	Pre Recorded learning for all year groups Further trials of live teaching for key year groups. 50% school More information to follow	Remote learners – Learning challenges – Recovery / Wider Curriculum via Class dojo Safe and Well calls 1 to 1 feedback if required from am learning and interventions if errors occurred SEN Packs	Not Applicable
W.C 25 th January 2021	Live learning either Remote via Teams for all year groups and classes. 9 – 12.15 / 12.30	1 – 2pm Recovery Curriculum focused on Reading and Arithmetic – Pre – Recorded 2pm – 3.30pm Remote learners – Learning challenges across the Wider Curriculum – Independent Safe and Well calls 1 to 1 feedback if required from am learning and interventions if errors occurred SEN Interventions – if required – Live Reading interventions – Covid Catch up – Live – If Required	Not Applicable
W.C 1 st February 2021 and onwards	Live learning either Remote via Teams for all year groups 9 – 12.15 / 12.30	1 – 2pm Recovery Curriculum focused on Reading and Arithmetic – Live Teaching 2pm – 3.30pm Remote learners – Learning challenges across the Wider Curriculum – Independent	Launch of ASC (Enrichment for learners both in school and home)

		<p>Safe and Well calls</p> <p>1 to 1 feedback if required from am learning and interventions if errors occurred</p> <p>SEN Interventions – if required</p> <p>Reading interventions – Covid Catch up.</p>	<p>4pm – 4.30pm Monday to Friday</p>
--	--	---	--

Should you have any positive feedback, questions or concerns we ask that you promptly contact school in the first instance. I kindly ask you follow the chain of class teacher via dojo, a phone call into school to speak with Senior leaders or email myself as the Executive Headteacher and Jane Gaskell, Head of School on Covid@watersideprimary.org.uk. We will aim to resolve absolutely any issue and are confident that our positive partnerships and transforming school continues to go from strength to strength. I want Waterside Primary to shine as an example of how we have ensured no learning is lost for our wonderful Droplet pupils.

Finally, I want to thank some special people.

- I want to thank parents of key workers for your bravery and hard work, I assure you we will look after your children in exemplary fashion and our Covid risk assessment have been perfect in our latest review visit today, 11th January 2021 whilst you do good in your roles.
- I want to thank all parents support their children learning at home. It is challenging and harder than we imagine – so be kind to yourself and know you are playing a key role also in the combat of this horrendous virus. I know first-hand, as a parent, how hard it is to juggle home schooling; especially if combined alongside working daily so either way please look at the positives you have achieved and keep smiling. The phone or email is available and contact us, we will not judge and will support you 100%.
- For all parents, where bubbles go down (touch wood not many) we thank you for you in advance for your adaptability in switching from your key worker to home worker role. This is not an easy transition but again we are here to support you.
- I want to thank all the staff of Waterside Primary School. They have been nothing short of inspirational and positive. They are keen to continue learning to the highest standards. They have worked hours upon hours and are constantly reflecting to make the children’s learning be engaging and fun.

Keep well and safe

Mrs Knowles
Executive Headteacher

Miss Gaskell
Head of School