

Ryders Hayes School

A Primary Learning Academy – Every day's a learning day!

Gilpin Crescent, Pelsall, Walsall, WS3 4HX

Telephone: 01922 683008

Email: postbox@ryders-hayes.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs S.J.Minor



6th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

What is different about remote learning this time for pupils in Year1-6?

Firstly thank you all for your patience and forbearance after Monday evening's announcement and our attempts to contact you that evening when ParentMail failed us all! Hopefully we managed to communicate with you all in the end and it is good to know that we can message you all through your child's Google account if needs be.

Yesterday we had a really happy, pleasant, and calm start to 'Lockdown II', with 114 children in school in their usual classes and the majority of their classmates managing to join us for remote learning from home during the afternoon.

Inevitably there were a few teething problems for some families in joining Google Classroom, but they were soon overcome and we were very pleased overall. We did just want to explain the main differences between remote learning this time around compared with learning via Seesaw as we did previously, to help families at home. Please see the attached guidance re: Expectations for Remote Learning. These are as follows from tomorrow:

Children will be expected to join Google Classroom as they would if at school, promptly at their usual start time for registration and a full day's timetabled learning. (Sessions are live and not recorded and so punctual log-in is important). You should now have a timetable for the week. The main difference here is that the teacher is in control of your child's learning rather than the parent at home (as was the case in the summer). Older children should be able to learn entirely independently during the day, perhaps with a prompt to log back on for the afternoon at the right time. Younger children may just require a little support initially with maintaining concentration and using the technology.

There will be a full live programme of learning each morning until 11:45am, (unless it is PE or a special event), with a short break mid-morning. During the morning your child will engage with the live learning in class; be able to 'turn in' (hand in) their work electronically with a click of a button and their teacher can



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see this instantly and give feedback, either verbally or in writing, often within the lesson. We do not want anyone to submit work via email then or later in the day - only on Google Classroom. Parents should not need to email the teacher with, or about the work at all - only in very exceptional circumstances. The teacher may choose to mark the work later, after school, but again this will be on Google classroom, not by email this time.

Pupils learning remotely can leave messages in the chat as well as contribute to the discussion if invited by the teacher.

If the teacher has muted the class, neither the child (nor an adult) should unmute themselves, unless invited to do so (background noise from home can be very distracting for the teacher and other pupils).

Children at home will be able to work collaboratively on a shared document with others

At lunchtime, pupils who are remote learning will have a break from 11:45-1pm. Any individual rehearsal or consolidation should be completed between 12:45-1pm, e.g. tables/spelling practice or reading.

Live lessons and registration will commence again at 1pm. Please ensure that your child is ready at 1pm to get their afternoon 'mark' on the register. They may have some live teaching/modelling/ introduction to their learning for the afternoon and then be able to work off-line for a while, usually returning with their work later in the afternoon.

Live music lessons will be streamed as indicated on your timetable - you may be asked to find some household items as substitutes for instruments to be able to tap out a rhythm.

Your child will be accessing a full, bespoke and balanced curriculum just as they would at school this time - thanks to live-streaming and Google Classroom. If your child will be part-time in school and learning partly from home, this should make very little difference to their learning, as everyone, whether in school or not, will be learning together and in real time every day. This will provide a seamless approach to your child's learning over the next 6 weeks.



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Please be patient with us... This is a massive learning curve for us all, not least for our teachers and support staff, who are bravely honing their skills at live-streaming in front of an audience - using IT skills completely alien to them this time last year, whilst managing children in the classroom at the same time as the learning of the remainder of the class at home. We know that this technology will be unfamiliar to many of you at home, who are also balancing the demands of working from home, but unlike last time, your child will require very little support from you, once they too get used to the new way of learning! This time the teacher is leading the learning - not you! Please support them to deliver on this exciting new way of learning, so that your child can gain maximum benefit and turn these challenging times into something really positive for them and for you.

With our very best wishes for a successful term - stay safe!

Sally Miner and Jaz Paul



HealthySchools

