



Hillcross Primary School

Parent Guide to Remote Learning

We recognise that providing high quality remote teaching and learning can present everyone with a range of challenges; however, by working together, building on what we now know and feedback from parents, we can all ensure that children at Hillcross continue to have access to the best possible learning opportunities irrespective of where their learning is taking place. The following information will support parents/carers in ensuring their child is able to take part in remote learning provided by Hillcross Primary School.

In the event of a school closure, or a child being unable to attend school due to coronavirus related reasons, we endeavour to ensure that all children can continue to learn remotely during their absence from school. Engagement with the remote learning set is expected and parents will be contacted if a child does not engage with the work provided. If your child is unable to attend 'virtual school', please report their absence in the normal way as your child's 'attendance' will be recorded.

The school approach to on-line learning is led by current research and feedback from parents, children, staff and governors.

Overview of actions to be taken by the school

Child in self-Isolation	Partial School Closure/Closure of a 'Bubble'	Full School Closure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 24 hours of parents notifying the school, slides and accompanying work for the learning that day/week will be uploaded via Google Classroom. • Child to begin completing learning set remotely via Google Classroom. • The curriculum will follow the same sequence as the rest of the class. • Teachers will call home weekly during self-isolation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those classes/year groups still required to attend school will continue doing so. Attendance will be compulsory during this period. • If the class/year group is required to deliver education remotely, the class teacher will upload home learning slides and associated learning tasks for all children via Google Classroom. • A timetable will be sent home. • The class teacher or alternative relevant adult will deliver a live daily 'learning check-in' for approximately 10 minutes. The time of this will be on the timetable sent home. • Wherever possible, class teachers will deliver 3 live lessons each week (one English, one maths and one other). • The curriculum delivered during the period of remote learning will follow the same sequence as if the children had been in school. • Feedback to children on their learning will be given and sought in response to independent learning. • Teachers will split their class into four groups and arrange a well-being 'check in' session each week for each group. • Parental surveys will be sent home every two weeks for the duration of the remote education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The class teacher will send home learning slides and associated learning tasks for all children via Google Classroom. • A timetable will be sent home. • The class teacher or alternative relevant adult will deliver a live daily 'learning check-in' for approximately 10 minutes. The time of this will be on the timetable sent home. • Wherever possible, class teachers will deliver 3 live lessons each week (one English, one maths and one other). • The curriculum delivered during the period of remote learning will follow the same sequence as if the children had been in school. • Feedback to children on their learning will be given and sought in response to independent learning. • Teachers will split their class into four groups and arrange a well-being 'check in' session each week for each group. • Parental surveys will be sent home every two weeks for the duration of the remote education.



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Google Classroom

Google Classroom is our remote learning platform. All children will use this platform to access and turn in their remote learning. Google Classroom can be accessed via a desktop computer or laptop and the Google Classroom app can also be downloaded onto smartphones and tablets. Every child has a unique username and password which has been provided by the school.

Google classroom offers high levels of flexibility - even if the home learning task children complete is practical, photographs can be taken of their work and 'turned in' (uploaded). Families may also decide to help their child present their work on a Microsoft Word document or on PowerPoint slides, which can be 'turned in' the same way. The Home Learning page of the school website contains a Google Classroom user's guide and videos demonstrating how to use Google Classroom for children and parents.

Families with no/limited access to ICT equipment and/or the internet should contact the school so that support/alternative work can be provided.

How can Parents best support their children's learning at home?

- Read and respond to communication from the school pertaining to their child's remote education
- Help their child to plan timings of their remote lessons so that individual family circumstances can be taken into account.
- Ensure their child engages in the remote learning provided.
- Check their child's completed work each day and encourage them with the progress that is being made.
- Ensure they know how to access the feedback on Google Classroom.
- Understand the basic principles of feedback and encourage children to act on feedback given.
- Monitor the comments their child is making on the Google Classroom chat facility.
- Ensure their child is working online safely – please refer to the school website.

Encourage your child to:

- Participate as fully as possible in the remote education process by completing independent work, and submitting assessed tasks promptly and to the best of their ability.
- Read and respond to communication from their teacher via Google Classroom.
- Value the feedback given as an opportunity to learn more.
- Ensure all comments made by them on the Google Classroom chat facility are about the learning and are in keeping with the comments they would make in the classroom.
- Read daily, either independently or with an adult, in keeping with our Hillcross Reading Pledge.

Keeping children safe online

- The following resources are available to support parents and carers to keep their children safe online:
 - [support for parents and carers to keep children safe online](#), which outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to find support and advice
 - guidance on [staying safe online](#) which includes information on security and privacy settings
 - [Thinkuknow](#) provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online
 - [Parent info](#) is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations
 - [Childnet](#) offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support
 - [Internet matters](#) provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world
 - [London Grid for Learning](#) has support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online, including tips to keep primary aged children safe online
 - [Net-aware](#) has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps and games



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- [Let's Talk About It](#) has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services

Things that can help to reduce the challenges

- Make every effort to maintain a regular and familiar routine that is as close to the usual 'school day' as possible.
- Make every effort to provide your child with an appropriate place to work and, to the best of your ability, support their work by encouraging them to work with good levels of concentration (no TV in the background!).
- Be mindful of mental well-being of both yourself and your child and encourage your child to take regular breaks, play games, get fresh air, regular exercise and relax.
- Contact the school via info@hillcross.merton.sch.uk if anything is unclear in the work that is set or if you are worried about your child's well-being. Child's name, class and the nature of the query should be entered in the subject line.

We recognise that some children may not be able to access remote education without adult support. We will do our best to work in partnership with families to support them deliver a broad and balanced curriculum for their children. The EYFS page and the SEND page of the school website provide families with a wealth of guidance, re¹sources and links to other websites and agencies that can offer support.

¹ For the purpose of safeguarding the lessons will be recorded. The recordings will be kept on our school servers for the duration of the children's time at Hillcross and will then be archived. Please note these recordings are for school records only and will not be made available to families.