



Hillcross Primary School

Home Schooling Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do I have to do the work that is set? Can I do something else?**

We would love all the children to be able to complete all of the learning set but you do not have to – parents and children will not get into “trouble” if they do not complete the learning; however, please bear in mind that lost learning time cannot be re-taught at a later date.

The learning objective we are addressing when planning activities for the children are the same as those we had planned to teach the children at this point of the year in order to meet national curriculum expectations – this is to ensure that children ‘continue’ their learning and do not have large gaps in their knowledge and skills when their formal education begins again.

Therefore, if you would like to plan your own activities for the children to follow rather than those set by the class teacher, please try to ensure that over time, your child has the opportunity to cover all the learning objectives (WALTs) the teacher identifies.

- **It feels overwhelming to try and get everything done each day.**

We do appreciate the challenges families are facing whilst having to home school their children, complete their own work and probably having to share computers too. We do suggest setting a timetable that takes into account your own personal circumstances. You do not have to complete the learning on the day it is set and you do not have to do the same amount of learning each day. On Google Classroom, the deadline for the week’s learning is 7pm on Sunday, which means you can incorporate weekend days if that helps.

Don’t forget, we will NOT be setting any learning during the Easter holidays so you may decide to defer or revisit learning during those two weeks – this could provide something to pass the time whilst we adhere to the government request to socially distance ourselves from others!

- **I have not received log in details for Google Classroom.**

Children’s log in details were all stuck in their home learning books. A letter was also sent home with all children who attended school on Tuesday 17th March containing log in details for all online platforms the children have access to. If your child was not in school on this day, letters were sent home with siblings, where possible, or put in the post. Please look in your child’s book bag and communication book and you should find the information you need. If you still can’t find it, please email info@hillcross and we will get the information to you as soon as possible. Please be patient as we are receiving a lot of emails at this time.



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- **I am not able to log in to the home Google Classroom accounts that were sent home in their books.**

*There is a Google Classroom 'How to' guide on the**Home Schooling** website page for Year 3 to Year 6. Please refer to this in the first instance but if you continue to have difficulties, please email info@hillcross and someone will contact you as soon as possible. Please be patient as we are receiving a lot of emails at this time.*

- **For some reason my child is unable to log onto his email account?**

Your child only need to log onto Google Classroom (Y3-Y6) and so you do not need to worry about their Gmail accounts.

- **My child was not in school prior to the closure and so we do not have a home learning book can I use a book we have at home?**

Yes, that is absolutely fine. It will make life easier to have as much of their learning as possible in one place but we know that our children and families are very creative and would welcome learning that is evidenced in a variety of ways.

- **Can work be uploaded onto Google Classroom earlier than 9am each day?**

Each day, class teachers are planning learning and preparing resources, often using technology they have not used before. These are then differentiated for groups and individuals as much as possible and this takes time. For those of you who like to be prepared, one suggestion would be to work one day behind the learning set so it is available for you to look at before 9am if you wish to do so.

- **Please can the resources that are uploaded to the school website be in black and white so that we can print them out?**

For many children, the colours and patterns on the resources will sustain their interest and engagement with their learning. At the current time we will not be able to make the additional black and white presentations as this would require staff having to adapt each resource made and upload them twice. Whilst we are keen to support parents wherever we can, we also have a duty to consider the well-being of staff who are currently carrying out a multitude of new roles in very uncertain circumstances. We will revisit this as a possibility once we have become more settled and efficient in our new way of working.

- **When I log on to different websites or resources they are not working properly. Are they not working?**

Some of the online platforms and the internet in some areas are struggling to cope with demand. If you are struggling to access online resources, take a break and try again later or try and find an alternative way to learn the knowledge or skill. Most providers are trying to increase their capacity to be able to cope with the increase in demand and we therefore hope this will be one less pressure for us all!