



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

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Dear Parents / Carers

Strategy to ensure continuity in learning following the impact of COVID-19 on children's learning

Following an unusual spring term and a more normal Easter break, the staff and I are feeling energised and looking forward to what we hope will be a productive, freer summer term. During the weeks before the Easter holiday, the children spent time adjusting to being back in school, allowing us time to assess their learning. Using this information we have been keen to put together a plan which benefits all our children's learning needs after two periods of remote learning in the last 12 months. I am pleased to say that generally the children's attainment and progress has continued to build despite the disruption. I am particularly impressed with the progress made in the children's reading and congratulate parents, teachers and children on this. Some areas of the curriculum have been harder for the children to learn whilst away from the classroom setting and our plan aims to reinforce and consolidate where needed. This term we are looking to secure children's learning, ensuring appropriate skills and knowledge are firmly embedded in their long term memory before they move up to their new year group.

I am so proud of how our children have returned to school with excitement, maintaining their enthusiasm to consolidate the knowledge and skills they acquired, whilst remote learning, through into this term.

We will therefore be providing two forms of support/ adjustment in order to provide all of our learners with additional opportunities to consolidate their learning from this and previous academic years. Additional resources have been purchased to support this consolidation work both in the classroom and in small groups.

Universal Support

All our children will benefit from a universal package of support. The teachers have reviewed the curriculum for the summer term ensuring all children continue to have access to high quality learning opportunities.

Subject leaders and class teachers have reviewed the curriculum content taught since September 2020, as well as the remaining areas to be taught in the coming terms, and have prioritised the key learning, knowledge and skills to consolidate. This will ensure that children will transition to their new year groups with the fundamental knowledge they need to have the best possible start in September.

All class timetables have been adjusted to facilitate additional daily maths and writing opportunities. We continue to have a high level of very skilled and well trained Learning Support Assistants who work in all classes, with individuals and small groups of children. Their work is highly focussed and targeted to address any less secure elements of learning identified through ongoing assessment.

In preparation for secondary school, Year 6 are now extending their school day and starting at 8.30am.

Targeted Support Groups

During this half term, teaching staff will be providing additional teaching sessions, outside of the school day that have been designed to help children become more confident with any maths or English content they may need extra support with. These sessions will run for 40-45 minutes twice a week either before or after school and are by invitation only; we will be asking for parental consent for children to attend these sessions. Children will be invited to one or more of these sessions as appropriate. Some of these sessions began in the autumn term and continued in the weeks leading up to the Easter break and we are now pleased to be able to extend this further and for all year groups.

In line with the Education Endowment Fund's research, these sessions will be run by trained staff, most of whom are qualified teachers. They will be highly focussed, targeted on specific areas identified as needing further consolidation and will take place in small groups with a high adult to child ratio. They will remain fluid and reactive, in terms of teaching, to children's needs. Children will only attend the number of sessions required to meet their needs. This will enable us to reach as many children as possible. This will not be available indefinitely and we do hope that all invited children will attend regularly as we expect the progress made to be rapid.

Mrs Nagle continues to run Homework Club now in the school hall which is divided into bays for the different bubbles. Teachers continue to set homework which can be completed at this time. If additional time is booked, teachers will provide further targeted work to help consolidate learning further. All children who are entitled to the Pupil Premium Grant (Free School Meals) are entitled to one free place at Homework Club. Both free and paid for (£7.50 per session) Homework Club places can be booked via Mrs Barnes in the school office.

As you can see, we have lots planned for the term ahead and look forward to doing our best to support all our children, particularly after such a turbulent time. The additional teaching sessions will take place on two afternoons for two different groups of children (varying days to avoid clashing with our two after school sports clubs). Homework club is available every day after school and phonics sessions take place before school. You will receive a letter directly if your child is being invited to join one of the sessions.

Homework Club and the morning in phonic sessions began this week. The additional after school teaching sessions will begin next week.

Kind regards

Mrs Phillips
Headteacher