



Remote Learning Frequently Asked Questions **January 2021**

In response to a number of parental questions about remote learning we have collated the following frequently asked questions.

How will my child access remote learning?

We are using the seesaw app for remote learning. Your child knows how to use this as we have been setting work since June 2020 through this platform. Please remember that this is a platform for communication between your child and their teacher. If you require specific information school can be contacted by phone or e mail parentinfo@knoplaw.newcastle.sch.uk

Will there be an opportunity for live lessons?

At this point in time, there will be no opportunity for live lessons because the school is full to capacity with critical worker and vulnerable children. This means that staff have to teach children in their classroom and do not have the capacity for live lessons.

How much support can I give my child with their work?

We appreciate all the support you are giving your children at home. However, there does need to be a balance of the children being supported and completing tasks independently when possible. It is important that staff are made aware if the children have struggled with an activity as this will inform our future planning. Please do not complete the tasks on your child's behalf, let them have a go so we have an honest impression of what they can do. If you have had to support your child with a task, please write a little comment to inform us of this.

Can we have additional work?

The work provided is in line with government DFE guidelines. There are two hours per day of lessons in EYFS, three hours per day in KS1 and four hours in KS2. Challenges are provided within the activities set for the children to complete if they wish. For any additional activities over and above the work provided that you may wish to complete with your children, we advise you refer to The Oak Academy website or BBC Bitesize as they have lots of lovely ideas.

Can we have the tasks the day before so that we can print out activities?

If you wish to print the activities in advance and cannot print them on the day the work is assigned, then we suggest that your child works one day behind the main class i.e. on a Monday they will be doing Friday's work and on a Tuesday they would be doing Monday's work. Staff are more than happy to accommodate this and would

expect that the children would continue to upload the work to seesaw for them to mark.

Can you send or print the daily work sheets for us?

We are unable to do this on a daily basis but have offered parents the choice of paper-based tasks. Seesaw enables children working from home to access the same work as the children working in school and this ensures that children are covering the curriculum in the same sequence. Please be mindful that the children can complete the tasks on paper using the online worksheet as a prompt then upload the photograph of their work onto Seesaw. If your child has access to a computer/laptop/tablet etc. the work can be word processed or the worksheet can be edited and completed on Seesaw.

Can we get the work and on different days or in advance i.e. blocks of work?

The staff are providing subject overviews to give you an insight into what is being covered in the coming days and weeks. Staff plan in response to pupil outcomes so cannot set activities in advance as these often need to be tweaked or altered.

Can we choose not to do the work on seesaw?

Staff are continuing to follow their year group curriculum objectives so the children can progress through their year group's curriculum. This curriculum is bespoke to our school and exactly the same lessons are covered in school as are set for home learning. This is to ensure the children are at the same point in their learning when they all eventually return. Can we ask that parents follow the small steps the teachers set out and not jump ahead to the final activity. Using seesaw is the preferred method if you have access to digital devices because staff can see your child's work over the course of the day and can respond to the work that they have completed. Where there are issues, the staff can provide paper-based packs, however this makes constructive marking and feedback extremely difficult and can lack meaning when given too long after the work has been completed.

We are struggling with the amount of work posted on Seesaw.

The DFE requirement is that we provide work in line with their guidelines (as stated above). However we understand that children learn and complete tasks at different rates. Therefore we would recommend that no activity should take more than one hour. If the task is taking longer than the hour, your child needs to stop and submit what they have completed in that time. It is not expected that all children will complete all of the tasks every time. Children work at different paces and the teachers know your children and are aware of the amount of work each child can achieve in the time. If the teacher believes there has been issues with the understanding of the task, they will respond with additional guidance in the comments box on Seesaw. We are also aware that there are some days when the children might find the tasks easier so will complete these slightly faster.

We are struggling with meeting deadlines and to teach the work.

We understand that home learning is challenging for all families, therefore our advice is to try to complete as much work as possible but be kind to yourselves. Where the work is taking more than the allocated time of one hour per activity, we suggest that you stop. Children and their families have different challenges and no household is

the same. Some parents are juggling working from home and home schooling at the same time as well as having other commitments to contend with also. The children will have good days and bad days therefore it is important that children have some flexibility in their learning and on good days complete all of the tasks at a high standard and on the days that are more problematic, they may not produce as much work and we understand this.

I'm worried about the time I need to submit work.

Work will be set on seesaw by 9am. However different families work in different ways and therefore work can be submitted at any time of the day. Please understand that our staff are only available within the school day up until 4 o'clock. Any work submitted after this time will be looked at and marked the following day. The staff are replicating teaching and learning in the way that they would in an ordinary working week so there is no expectation that teachers work over the weekend. However, if it suits your family to work at the weekend then send the work to seesaw in the usual way please be aware that the staff will not respond to this work until the Monday. Teachers do want to see all of the work your children are completing but if this work is submitted weeks after it was initially set, it does make it very difficult to respond to.

Why is the teacher not responding to some of my child's posts?

Please be aware that your child's seesaw journal is the equivalent to their exercise book in class and allows us to see the progress they are making. This is the priority for our staff when marking the seesaw activities submitted. Although it is lovely to see any additional tasks the children are doing at home, the staff are not expected to respond to or mark these.

Why has my child not been contacted for a Zoom call?

We are working very hard to make contact with all children who are working from home. Due to staff teaching in bubbles all day, availability to make these calls is limited. We are gradually working our way through each year group to sort out additional sessions and you will be contacted in the near future with a weekly time slot. These sessions are not compulsory and times allocated cannot be changed. Please read the guidance on Zoom calls and our Virtual lessons code of conduct policy which is attached to this email and on our website.



Code of Conduct for Virtual Live Sessions



Pupil Rules

- Be ON TIME for your meeting
- Make sure your technology is fully charged
- Sit somewhere quiet in a communal family space (not in your bedroom)
- Make sure there is no one in the background whilst you are online
- Make sure you are dressed appropriately
- Keep your microphone on unless told to mute it by the teacher leading the session
- Keep your video on
- If your teacher asks you a question and you are in a live group session, please put your hand up to answer. Do not shout the answer out
- Do not interrupt other people who are speaking
- Be kind, positive and considerate when speaking

Lastly, the same behaviour rules that we have in school apply to the Zoom session and the teacher retains the right to terminate a pupil's participation for poor behaviour.

Parent/Carer Rules

By allowing your child to join their class Zoom meeting, with parental responsibility, you agree to the terms set out in this code of conduct.

- By taking part in this Zoom meeting parents/families are agreeing that they will not film, photograph or upload any of the session to other platforms
 - The meeting ID is to remain confidential and must not be shared with anyone that it was not designated to
 - Ensure that children follow the pupil rules and provide a quiet space for them
 - The session is only to be accessed by a device in a communal family space
 - The content of each session is confidential
 - Other members of the household should not be visible or audible during the sessions
 - Everyone involved in the session must dress appropriately and behave in line with our Knop Law rules
 - Parents should not interact with the session but may contact the teacher after the session, via the school office, if there are any questions or concerns
 - Parents should ensure that the pupils are aware of the Pupil expectations set out above