

Whole School Closure – Parent Guidance – January 2021: Year 1

Please see the guidance below which will detail how your child will learn from home during the current school closure period.

[Home Learning Platform](#)

In Years 1-6, children use Google Classroom to access their home learning and you may have had some experience of using this platform already through homework set or through use with siblings.

We understand, however, that Year 1 children, and most parents, will be new to this learning platform and therefore please know we are here to support you and answer any questions you may have. We have also attached Google Classroom guidance to the parent email sent out to help you with some of the main features of this platform.

[Virtual Learning](#)

In Years 1-6, children will need to virtually attend two interactive learning sessions each day which will be facilitated through Google Meet. The morning session will focus directly on the learning for the day. The sessions will last for around 20-40 minutes, depending on the age of the children and the content of the session.

For your child's year group, the morning virtual learning sessions will take place every day (Monday-Friday) at either **8.30am (group one)** or **9.15am (group two)**, starting from Monday 11th January.

We have split each class up into groups to make the morning interactive teaching sessions more effective and to ensure children have the opportunity to interact with the learning material and ask any questions.

You will receive an email from the school office later this week to let you know which Google Meet group your child is in for the morning sessions (the afternoon sessions are run as a whole class).

The afternoon virtual sessions will be whole class sessions and will take place at **12.30pm** every weekday, again starting from Monday 11th January. These sessions will focus on different themes including whole class guided reading, story time, collective worship, social games and more.

General Home Learning Timetable: Year 1 – beginning Monday 11th January

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning session 1	Google Meet session (8.30am or 9.15am) and learning task one to be completed				
Morning session 2	Learning task two to be completed				
Afternoon session 1	Google Meet session at 12.30pm				
Afternoon session 2	Learning task three to be completed				

Virtual Learning Sessions this week (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

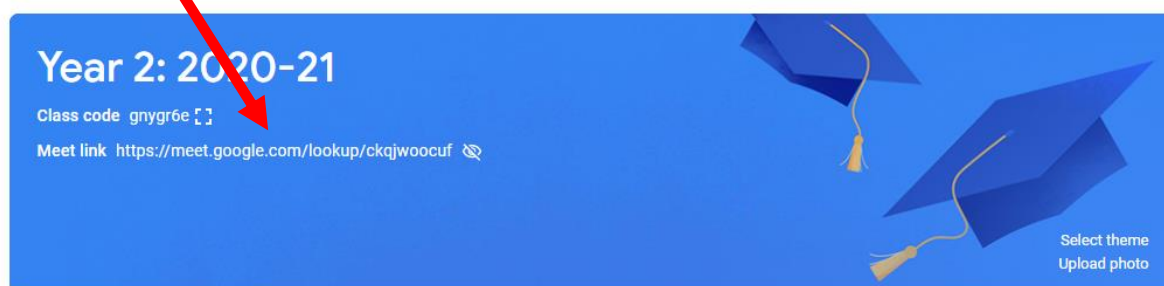
As children in Year 1 are not yet as experienced in using Google Classroom and Google Meet, we will be holding one virtual session a day this week each day to get the children used to this learning platform and to support parents in this too.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week, children can join their whole class Google Meet sessions at the following times:

Class 3: 12.45pm

Class 4: 1.45pm

For the Google Meets this week, the link to click on for the virtual Google Link session will appear at the top of your child's Google Classroom main page a couple of minutes before their session is due to begin:



Home learning expectations

The expectation for children is to complete the learning tasks they are set each day, on the day, unless they are unwell. If your child is ill, please inform the school office as usual. Learning is like building blocks; we will be adding to prior knowledge that the children already have, and further learning in school when we return will build on the children's knowledge, skills and understanding from their time during the home learning period.

We will monitor the children's engagement in home learning and will make contact if we have any concerns regarding this.

Uploading Learning

We encourage children to upload all pieces of their learning so that teachers are able to see it. Children can upload their work to their Google Classroom task if they have completed it on a computer/iPad or can simply take a photo of it and upload the photo onto Google Classroom (this can sometimes be simpler to do on a phone).

Please see the Google Classroom guidance for more information on how to upload work so that teachers are able to see this.

Feedback

In line with the current changes to our marking and feedback policy, teachers will not give written feedback on individual pieces of work. They will, instead, look through the work submitted and use this to give verbal feedback in the virtual learning sessions.

Uploading of work set by teacher

Tasks will appear on Google Classroom on the evening before they are being set, usually around 6pm. We ask that children do not access these tasks until their set day. Teachers may also specify when to do the task (for example, if the virtual learning session is English based, they may instruct children to do the English task after the virtual learning session).

Differentiating tasks and virtual learning

In order to meet the needs of all children, virtual learning sessions will be led by teachers and teaching assistants and they may be grouped in different ways.

Home Learning Books

A class parent rep will soon be in contact with you to arrange dropping off an exercise book for your child, should you need it. We have also purchased a new reading book for each child which will be delivered at the same time.

The books will not be available until the end of the week and therefore we ask that your child completes their home learning on paper, online or in a notebook in the meantime (or their homework book if this is at home).

If you require any resources for home learning that you do not have at home, please contact the school office and we will arrange a time for you to come into school to pick them up.

You will also receive further information regarding reading resources separately as we understand the importance of reading, especially during this time. This information will be available over the next week.

Use of technology

If you do not have access to an iPad or computer at home, please email the school office.

Google Meet session times have all been arranged so that siblings can share devices and times should not clash. If you do have any problems with this, please contact the school office.

[Google Classroom/Google Meet support](#)

If you require further assistance with using these learning platforms, please email the school office and we will be happy to help. We can offer support over the phone or email and also have a range of support documents which should be useful, particularly to parents who are new to this learning platform.

We understand that we are in challenging times and please know we are here to support you and your children in any way we can. We will review our home learning provision regularly and ask for your feedback, as we have done previously, so that we can make this as meaningful and manageable as possible.