



Choppington Primary School,
Eastgate,
Choppington,
NE62 5RR.

Telephone : 01670 – 823197
Fax : 01670 – 843094
e-mail – admin@choppington.northumberland.sch.uk

Headteacher : Daniel Nelson

7th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Can I start by thanking you all again for being so supportive of the school during this time, we really do appreciate the space you have given us and the messages of thanks for what we have done so far.

Home Learning

I am writing to inform you all of the remote learning changes we are making for this lockdown.

These changes will start on Monday 11th January, this Monday coming!!!

During this lockdown the message from the government to schools is that we are to provide learning daily for all children. Therefore the content that the staff are sharing is not something that can be viewed as being optional. It is really important that your child spends quality time engaged with the learning and being able to understand what is being asked of them. We have made the decision to provide 'live' lessons, for Reception – Year 6, as we know that some of you have struggled to engage your children in the home learning. Nursery will receive a weekly story time Zoom, but their work will not be delivered live. We hope that the couple of daily lessons (30 minutes each) will help you as parents, but more importantly the children with their learning and a chance to see their classmates and teachers as well. We appreciate that demand for devices; space and time will be potential issues in households but we are working to support you with these. This will take time due to DfE's current restrictions.

We will be delivering every Friday a new pack for the following week. This pack will include resources, timetables and work packs for the children to support their home learning. We will be setting work for Reading, Writing and Maths, daily. Plus there will be a topic grid linked to a weekly book – a video of a staff reading this will be sent via Class Dojo. We are asking for a few hours of work daily, Reading Writing and Maths in the morning plus choosing a topic task in the afternoon.

To help us deliver our content we will be using Class Dojo, Seesaw and Zoom. The children are used to using Seesaw in school already. Class Dojo is established too and I am sure most of you have used Zoom during the other lockdowns. An introduction to home learning from Mr Nelson will be coming out tomorrow and shared via Class Dojo. Below are links to help you understand the apps/technology better.

Class Dojo – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnfJDONJvCY> (How to add to your child's portfolio)

Seesaw – <https://youtu.be/W9FyB1SCbeM> (Introduction to Seesaw - how to respond or add content)

Zoom – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEFm48U1cKQ> (How to get Zoom up and running)

If your child has any problems with the online learning content your first port of call is to contact their class teacher. If there is a technical issue then again please contact the class teacher or the school office.

You will also see attached to this email our amended Acceptable Use Policy – Addendum January. This sets out the expectations for all the people involved in the 'live' Zoom lessons – teachers, pupils and parents. If you have any queries relating to the attached Acceptable Use Policy please either message via Class Dojo or send an email to admin@choppington.northumberland.sch.uk

Electronic Devices

Thank you all to the families that completed my very short survey yesterday. It has provided a very clear picture of the needs of our community, in relation to electronic devices and Wi-Fi. I will be requesting from the DfE as many devices as I can get and I am also going to request some 4G routers to help with Wi-Fi issues too.

The children in Year 5/6 will have access to their existing Amazon Fire tablets, which will be delivered with their work packs on Friday. You will need to set up your wifi, download the Zoom app but then they are ready to go.

We have a few spare devices in school which we are going to sort and distribute, initially to the families with multiple children, to help alleviate the potential issues if we have two children needing to be on Zoom at the same time.

Lunch Provision

We are required to provide free school meals or food parcels for pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals who are not at school, like in previous lockdowns. We have decided that we are going to provide weekly food parcels. They will be similar to the parcels we delivered in lockdown 1 and will be delivered on a Monday. We have devised a slightly modified menu which will include daily breakfast, lunch and a couple of extra treats (see menu attached).

For the children in school we also provide meals for those that are eligible for free school meals.

All I ask is that you continue to be patient over the next couple of weeks as we all get used to this way of working. We are sure it will be successful but there are likely to be a few bumps in the road along the way.

If you have any questions or queries regarding anything in this letter then do not hesitate to contact myself.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Nelson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Daniel Nelson
Headteacher