

Remote Learning Update – 13th January 2021

Dear Families, Parents and Carers,

I am sure that you will agree that this is not the start to 2021 we hoped for... We are all deeply disappointed that we are not able to welcome learners back into school, but know that we are still here to support you and your family.

We continue to be strongly committed to meeting the learning needs of all of our learners during this period of lockdown. Through working together we can support each other to ensure our learners receive effective learning and teaching and in line with Scottish Government guidance and expectations.

If you need to speak with me – please do not hesitate to phone 01875 340318. If I am not available I will return your call as soon as possible.

Debby

What will our online learning look like?

To facilitate learning during Lockdown, we will be returning to online learning using our Google Classrooms for P1-P3 and P4-P7. However to make sure that we deliver the expectations as set by the Scottish Government, there will be some changes to the way we organise and deliver work for the children from the way we did in the previous lockdown.

In nursery, we will follow a similar format as we implemented during the last lockdown including daily tweets and a supporting home learning. The Nursery Newsletter will be distributed fortnightly and families can expect their first newsletter to arrive in their email inbox by Monday 18th January.

Please remember we are not asking you to 'home school' your child, but where possible to support your child with learning activities at home.

What you can expect from us?

- On Monday mornings, your child's learning tasks and activities will go live. This will consist of 4 Literacy and English tasks, 4 Numeracy and Maths tasks and various Tasks across other curricular areas. These will be organised under 2 headings – core tasks and additional tasks. We ask that learners complete core tasks and that additional tasks can opt into and complete as many as they want to or can.
- Within each Google Classroom, learning activities will be assigned to each learner. This means that in Core subjects (Literacy and English and Numeracy and Maths), not all children will be doing the same activities and tasks across the week. These will be designed and differentiated to meet the needs of each child.
- Across the week there will be 2 'live' teaching sessions. Teachers will utilise one of the core activities from Literacy and English and Numeracy and Maths to deliver these. One method will be to deliver a lesson that they have recorded themselves and deliver this to learners. The second method will be to use a high quality pre-recorded video and then through Google Meet will work with learners to check for understanding, extend learning etc. through a live discussion. Times and activities will be shared with you at the start of each week.
- There will be times each day that teachers will be available to respond immediately to any questions through Google Stream. Teachers will share with you when that time will be throughout the week. Out with these identified times teachers will respond as soon as possible.
- There will be 1 google meet opportunity per week. This will allow learners to see, interact and chat with their peers online in a more informal manner. They can use Google Chat to chat with their peers at other times, but they do enjoy the visual element of Google Meet. Again, the time of your child's Google Meet will be shared with your child at the beginning of the week.
- Mr Bird (SfL) and our Learning Assistants will continue to support learners. As you might be aware they have been interacting with and responding to learners on-line. For some learners who would receive consolidation activities in school, we will endeavour to continue this through a weekly Google Meet and the appropriate Learning Assistant.
- Your child's teacher will be thinking about the resources your child may require (e.g. jotters /number lines /reading books etc.) when planning tasks. We will strive to get these to you as soon as possible and will communicate with you a system and times to pick these up from your child's school setting.
- During lockdown, each of our teachers will be supporting in-school learning on a weekly rota basis. For the week that your child's class teacher is in-school facilitating learning, the activities set for your child will be slightly different. Teachers will continue to carefully plan and deliver effective activities for your child to participate in, and will direct learners to on-line videos that will support learning. However, your child's class teacher **will not be able to** deliver the interactive teaching aspect of online learning, nor respond immediately to online questions. Teachers will strive to respond as soon as they can.

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What we need from you:

- Try to ensure your child is **accessing Google Classroom daily** to keep up with the work set. There is an expectation that your child will engage with the core lessons as a minimum, to support our learners to continue to make progress in their learning.
- If your child is having any difficulty for example understanding or accessing an activity, accessing Google Classroom etc., please let us know. First port of call is to contact their class teacher via email and they will strive to help. Mrs Crossan is also here to provide support and assistance if required.
- Please help your child to upload pictures of work completed. It is difficult for teachers to know how your child has got on with a lesson/task if they have completed this on paper or a whiteboard and we cannot see their work. Seeing the work they have completed will help us plan for where your child needs to go next. The Google Classroom app is very easy to use and a photo of the work completed can be uploaded in a matter of seconds. If you need help to upload work, please let us know and we will do our best to support.

Please remember...

Please remember that in addition to providing remote learning activities, teachers and Nursery staff will have other commitments during the period of closure. In particular staff members are also providing in-school learning for Keyworker children.

I am sure you will also appreciate that staff also have their own personal commitments which may include caring for their own children, engaging in their own children's remote learning, caring for elderly relatives or other vulnerable friends and family whilst they strive to deliver the best learning experiences for our learners.

Useful email addresses

Debby Crossan (HT)	dcrossan@edubuzz.org
Kirsten Pearson (PT)	kpearson@edubuzz.org
Pippa Johnson	pjohnson@edubuzz.org
Janey Nicol	jnicol@edubuzz.org
Alana Aylot	aaylott@saltoun.elcschool.org.uk
Freda Wagenbichler	awagenbicher@saltoun.elcschool.org.uk
Saltoun Admin Mailbox	admin@saltoun.elcschool.org.uk

Nursery

The nursery Team will be in contact with families weekly through either a wee phone call or when we drop off play packs. We are keen to continue to plan for children's development and will ensure all activities are linked to the Early Years Curriculum. We will follow a similar format to what we used during the last lockdown. This will consist of daily tweets e.g. daily calendar, and a Nursery Newsletter which will suggest various activities. We will also provide a play grid which will give you some ideas for play opportunities. The Newsletter and Play grid will be distributed on alternate weeks beginning Monday 18th January.

Stay Safe

Please continue to follow Scottish Government guidance and whenever possible stay at home to further decrease the possible risk of Covid transmission in our community.

During these uncertain times, it can be very daunting and worrying for you and your family. With daily updates and briefings in the news, it is natural to feel anxious, or worried. To offer some support and to ensure communication between home and school, we will make phone contact with all families. We will try to ensure that the staff member who contacts you will remain consistent throughout the Lockdown period.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any issues, comments or suggestions. You are important to us and we are here to help! There will always be at least one member of our leadership team in school and we can be contacted by email or phoning the school on 01875 340318.

Finally, please be assured that our staff team will do all we can to ensure that we provide the best service possible for our learners. Please work with us and be patient... we may not get it right straight away, but we are working tirelessly to try to make sure we do! We are very lucky to have such a dedicated team of staff who strive to do their best for our families, and I am proud to be part of this team!

Take care, stay safe, and we hope to see you all soon!

On behalf of your Humbie and Saltoun staff team,

Debby



@HumbiePrimary

@Saltoun_Primary