



Handforth Grange's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

When schools closed at short notice in March 2020 due to the Global Covid-19 Pandemic, the decision was made to provide all children with a home-learning pack. These packs initially lasted 6 weeks and contained maths calculations, maths reasoning skills, spelling, punctuation and grammar and reading comprehensions and were differentiated for each Year group. They also contained a reward chart to help parents with behaviour management during this difficult time and the answers to worksheets which provided support to parents if needed. For children with special educational needs, a separate pack was provided based on their individual needs.

After 6 weeks, we asked families to return the packs and reviewed them before another set was sent out to cover the next 6 weeks of learning. Parents were also provided with links to BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy Trust. Then finally a third set was sent home to cover until the summer holidays and parents were encouraged to use Oak Academy Trust if they had access to online learning.

During the whole of lockdown every teacher offered a weekly check in on Class Dojo which was already being used within school to support behaviour and as a way that parents could contact the teacher. Every family was encouraged to send messages and upload photographs of the work the children completed at home onto Class Dojo so their teachers could provide feedback on their work and help if needed.

In addition to this, phone calls to vulnerable children were made regularly and EHCP meetings were held online to support our families who have children with special educational needs. Even though school was closed to most pupils, Key worker children continued to attend and they carried on with National Curriculum lessons with an increase in the PSHE provision. Once Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 were allowed back to school from the 1st June, we created more bubbles for those Year groups with Reception returning on the 1st June, Year 1 returning on the 8th June and Year 6 returning on the 15th June. We also opened up a bubble for every other year group so that we could invite more children who might be vulnerable to attend. By July, every teacher in school was teaching a bubble which contained up to 20 children.



Lead school within the Frank Field Education Trust
Promoting **Social Justice** through **Excellence in Education**



From 1st September, every class has been back learning a full and varied National Curriculum and we have further updated our remote provision to ensure continuity of learning should one of our bubbles have to shut. Originally paper worksheet packs were chosen to provide our remote learning to ensure equality in the provision provided to all. This was because some families had no access to ICT devices or had more than one child needing to access their learning at the same time. There was also safeguarding concerns regarding the use of some online video conferencing apps with the children which could be intercepted by people outside our school community.

Teachers however have now had time and training to provide online learning support safely and securely via MS Teams. We have also made a significant investment in technology to be able to provide this, including purchasing new laptops for every teacher to use at home. Ipads will be loaned to children struggling to access ICT equipment.

Therefore from September, should one of our bubbles have to shut for two weeks to self isolate, or in the event of local lockdown restrictions, a teacher will now be able to deliver online lessons each day from home. Every child has also been provided with writing and whiteboard equipment to keep at home ready for if their bubble has to close. Parents and children have also been provided with training on how to use MS Teams and a new home/school online learning agreement has been sent out. The behaviour and safeguarding policies have also been updated to include remote online learning.

Handforth Grange continues to regularly review and update our provision for our children in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Kind Regards,

The Senior Leadership Team



Lead school within the Frank Field Education Trust
Promoting **Social Justice** through **Excellence in Education**

