



Dear Parents/Carers,

Remote Learning Provision

We would like to thank those parents for feedback on our remote learning provision so far. All staff are working incredibly hard to provide the highest quality learning experiences both for children in school and those at home. We cannot stress enough how appreciative we are of any supportive, constructive messages to help us develop our provision.

As you know, today was the first day for most classes of our live morning messages and live help desks. These sessions will develop over time and allow us to tailor feedback, where necessary. If there were any technical issues, thank you for bearing with us - tomorrow will surely be smoother. These will provide opportunities for peer interaction, where possible and appropriate.

Further to this, we have been asked by some of you, to consider live lessons on our remote learning platform at St Stephen's. As a school, we made the decision to pre-record our lessons for several reasons. Firstly, it ensures a safe learning environment for our pupils and staff. Secondly, it gives families flexibility in the timings they choose to fit around work and sharing devices. Some homes also have internet connectivity issues, which could mean that they may miss learning. Furthermore, not all families have a quiet space for every child in their household to access live learning. Children also have the opportunity to revisit and replay sections of pre-recorded lessons, to help them understand.

On balance, we recognise that quality pre-recorded lessons, alongside some opportunities for live interaction will continue to provide high-quality teaching and learning. Recent research from Ofsted and EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) supports our decision. Ofsted state that live learning is not always the gold standard of remote education.

We understand that many children are finding the isolation of being at home very difficult. Indeed, we miss them too! We hope that seeing their friends' faces during the morning message will make them smile each day! In addition to this, good work will be shared regularly. There will also be opportunities for live discussion of content in the daily live help desk. If your child would like to discuss anything to do with their work further, please encourage them to join this forum. Please also look out on the stream as your child may be invited to this discussion, if your child's teacher has identified that they need further support.

We can see that the children are working very hard at home and we are so proud of their achievements during these difficult times. Just like last time, we are confident that they will return to school having made progress. Thank you for your continued support and kindness.

St Stephen's Team.