



MERRYLEE PRIMARY

Online Learning January 2021



Online learning at home will commence on Monday 11th January. Learning at home is a broad term to describe the learning which happens out with early learning and childcare settings and schools. It can take place through everyday activities including play and general family life, such as food preparation and cooking. It can also happen through curriculum related activities, homework, reading and sharing books.

During this period of lockdown, we aim to ensure that high quality teaching and learning continues for our pupils and that the experiences offered to both those at home and those in school are as similar as possible. The teachers will plan closely together to ensure a consistent home and school approach as much as possible.

As communicated in the newsletter earlier this week, teachers will share the responsibility for posting online to allow them to manage their in school and personal commitments. If you have any questions related to a home learning activity, please comment under that activity and the teacher responsible for home learning will respond. Teachers will work and be available according to their usual work patterns and working hours. For online purposes, this will generally be between 9am and 4pm.

Your child's class teacher will let you know when she is available, how she will communicate with you and how you should communicate with her through Seesaw. Activities will be posted daily on Seesaw Class App. Activities for each day will be scheduled at the start of each day. We appreciate that some of you like to be planned and prepared for the day ahead but as teachers have a greater school and shared online responsibility it is not possible to post activities the night before. However, you could always work a day behind if this suits you. As always, please do what you can. There is no expectation that you replace their teacher!

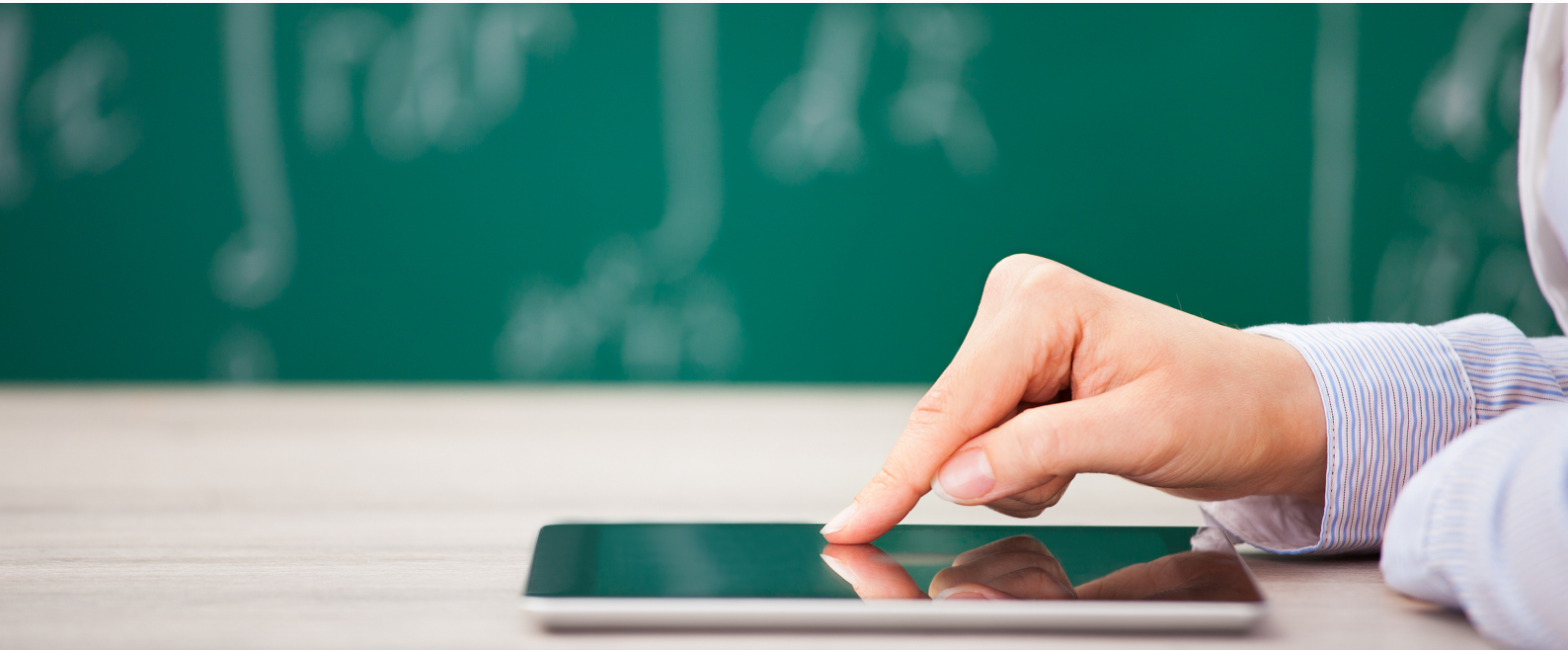


Teaching will focus on

Literacy and English

Numeracy and Maths

Health and Wellbeing



Planning and Delivering learning and teaching

We will still be focusing on Literacy and English, Numeracy and Maths and Health and Wellbeing using the experiences and outcomes to guide our planning. Other curricular areas will also be covered where possible, and cross-curricular links made where there is a genuine connection between experiences and outcomes.

Teachers will provide daily Literacy and Numeracy learning activities for pupils with a selection of HWB and other curricular areas across the week. We understand that home learning is challenging at the best of times, never mind when you are trying to work at home as well. Try to be flexible and accept that some days will be busier than others. Don't feel any pressure to have work completed on the day it is posted; catch up when you can or select the activities that you feel would be of most benefit to your child.

If you are finding it difficult to engage your child in home learning, try to split the work up into manageable chunks. Remember that when children are at school there is a lot of listening, talking, problem solving, practical activities, including physical exercise – they would not be sitting completing written work for a whole day. While it is not necessary to replicate the classroom at home, try to provide an appropriate environment for home learning e.g. a comfortable workspace and blocks of uninterrupted time that help support learning. Where possible, encourage home learning to be undertaken during the typical hours of a school day but appreciate that there may need to be some flexibility, especially where resources are shared as a family. Please let us know if your child is reluctant to engage or if you need additional resources.



Connection

We want our children to maintain communication with their teachers and peers and a sense of belonging to Merrylee Primary School community. Although, as stated previously, teachers will share the responsibility for posting the online home learning activities, your child's teacher will also provide regular check-ins and feedback on their learning as appropriate. Teachers will also prepare video messages and maintain regular personal contact as much as possible.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further help.

Colette Haddock

Head Teacher