



Woodhead Primary School and Nursery Class

How Good is Our Remote Learning?

Summary of Parent/Carer
Questionnaire Results

January 2021



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In January 2021, parents/carers were invited to take part in a questionnaire about our Remote Learning Offer.

96 responses were received, and a summary of the results are contained in this booklet. Parents/Carers were given the option of completing one form per household or one per child. Most respondents chose to complete one form.

Respondents were asked to comment on our use of Google Classrooms and Google Meets to provide Remote Learning. They also had an opportunity to provide further comments on any other aspect of Remote Learning.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the questionnaire. The information will be used to inform our plans for Remote Learning going forward.



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What is Working Well with Google Classrooms?

Parents/carers were asked to comment on what they thought is working well with Google Classrooms. Below is a summary of responses (Similar themes and comments have been collated/combined).

- Daily Check-in to promote pupil engagement.
- Clear, concise outline and explanation of tasks.
- Excellent communication and clear instructions from teaching staff.
- Work is well planned and updated regularly and timeously.
- Provides a structure and a routine to the day.
- Easy to see which task is the priority.
- Very straight forward and simple for children to work through their tasks.
- Promotes independence in learning (age/stage specific).
- Work organised in headers/folders to make them easy to access.
- Able to access everything on a variety of devices.
- Videos of the teachers explaining how to do tasks.
- Ability to contact the teacher to ask questions when/if needed in the stream and via private message.
- Questions and queries are answered quickly.
- Easy transition to remote learning as it was already being used for homework.
- Work scheduled daily encourages children to log in every day.
- Work scheduled weekly allows parents/carers to plan around other commitments.
- Early scheduling of work has helped with planning for working parents e.g. on a Sunday night, at 8am for daily tasks.
- Works well using the Google Classroom apps.
- Option to print worksheets.
- Use of blue/grey icons to see what work is still to be completed.
- Good balance of on-screen and off-screen activities.
- Variety of tasks e.g. games, worksheets, practical etc.
- Allows children to work at their own pace.
- Very useful feedback being provided.
- Children enjoy seeing praise and comments from the teachers



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How could we improve the use of Google Classrooms?

Parents/carers were invited to offer feedback on how we can improve our use of Google Classrooms. Below is a summary of responses (Similar themes and comments have been collated/combined).

- A summary sheet or checklist for the full week's work.
- Guidance on what tasks are a priority.
- Detail parts of 'Learning in a Context' work for specific stages to allow parents to easily identify suitable tasks.
- More work – my child completes their tasks quickly.
- Less work – there is too much to complete each day.
- More recording of instructions for younger children.
- Less work that requires printing.
- Ensure all tasks can be completed online so children don't have to write down questions/sums etc.
- Less school-work and more use of apps such as Education City.
- More feedback on how well a learner is progressing overall.
- More support for children who require individual input.
- Ability to hide archived work or completed work each week.
- Enable each activity to be submitted individually.
- A way to provide a link between P7 and P1 buddies.



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What is Working Well with Google Meets for Live Lessons?

Parents/carers were asked to comment on what they thought is working well with Google Meets. Below is a summary of responses (Similar themes and comments have been collated/combined).

- Provides much needed contact with the school that creates a sense of normality.
- Opportunities for children to check-in and interact with the class teacher.
- Opportunities for children to interact with their peers and friend.
- Helps children feel a part of their class/the school.
- Easy for children to access.
- Motivates the child to engage in their learning after the meet.
- Replicates some of the classroom routines e.g. morning meetings.
- Short sessions work well for children to stay focussed.
- Games make them less formal for children.
- A chance to ask questions about the work set.

How could we improve the use of Google Meets for Live Lessons?

Parents/carers were invited to offer feedback on how we can improve our use of Google Meets. Below is a summary of responses (Similar themes and comments have been collated/combined).

- Daily 1-1 sessions with the class teacher for each pupil.
- Increased teaching time and learning opportunities.
- More direct teaching within Google Meets.
- Sessions specifically focussed on reading groups, maths groups etc.
- Longer time for each session as it motivates children to do their work.
- Shorter time for each session as it can be stressful to the child.
- More Google Meets as these help parents manage Remote Learning.
- Less Google Meets as these are stressful to already overwhelmed parents.
- Some children might not feel confident speaking.
- Decrease the amount of work set across Google Classroom to account for the increased number of Google Meets.
- Increased opportunity for children to socialise and speak to one another.



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Do you have any other comments or Feedback about Remote Learning?

Parents/carers were invited to offer any other comments on Remote Learning. Below is a summary of responses (Similar themes and comments have been collated/combined).

Where a comment or question requires direct follow-up, a member of the school team will contact parents/carers by telephone to provide assistance.

Common themes were:

- General high levels of satisfaction with the Remote Learning, the guidance and level of support.
- Very well organised compared to the first lockdown.
- Difficulties for parents in managing Remote Learning whilst also working from home.
- Difficulties for parents when managing Remote Learning with children in the household in different year groups/schools.

You said.....We did....

This section provides some of the answers to FAQs or outlines our next steps based on your feedback.

Can the work be uploaded earlier to help working parents manage their time?

All daily tasks are scheduled at 8am to provide extra time before 'the school day' starts at 9am. Weekly tasks are scheduled at 7pm on a Sunday evening wherever possible. Parents can choose to work 'a day behind' if this allows them to review the work in the evening before their child completes it the next day. Don't worry if a task has a 'due' date – it is fine to submit tasks late.

There is too much work provided. I don't know what to focus on.

In line with Scottish Government and South Lanarkshire Guidelines, we are providing daily literacy and numeracy lessons that ensures learning is progressed during school closure. We also provide interdisciplinary 'topic' learning and Learning in a Context work to ensure children are being provided with their curricular entitlement.

If a child or family is struggling with the volume of work, or pupil motivation, please get in touch so we can offer support and advice.

We would suggest that if you cannot complete all of the tasks, make the Literacy and Numeracy tasks your priority.



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Is the 'Learning in a Context' work compulsory? Can it be made stage specific? Can the instructions be made simpler?

The weekly 'Learning in a Context' work is designed to offer additional areas of the Curriculum beyond the core subjects. It is optional and is designed to be adapted to suit your children's age and interests. We have now provided video explanations to accompany the instructions and will try where possible to identify tasks that can be completed as independently as possible.

Some of the Twinkl attachments provided in the Google Classroom require payment to access.

Class Teachers will only link to resources and activities that are free for children to use. You might be asked to subscribe if you follow links inside the website to other activities. If you have any trouble accessing a resource within Google Classrooms, send a message to the Class Teacher or email the school office for assistance.

Can my child remove or hide completed or archived work?

As many tasks are assigned to a whole class or group, it is not always possible to remove the archived or completed work for individuals. Where work is assigned to a pupil, it will disappear from their 'to-do' list once handed in. However, to allow children to revisit or catch-up with work from earlier lessons, we need to keep archived tasks for a period of time.

Viewing the child's work in the 'Classwork' tab will allow you to see it organised into different headings. We will ensure that current work appears above the archived work in the Classwork tab.

Different formats for videos/documents provide difficulties in accessing/downloading.

This can be dependent on the IT equipment being used by the child to access Google Classrooms. You might find it easier to complete some tasks in a jotter instead of completing them online.

Please let us know if you have any difficulty accessing a document or video and we will always do our best to resolve these issues for you.

Enable separate tasks to be uploaded individually

Where multiple activities are in the same post, we suggest submitting them once all are completed. If you accidentally submit before all tasks are completed, you can 'un-submit' it.

Allow a child to hand in their work daily to increase chance for child to be nominated for the 'Remote Recognition Award'

Class Teachers take a holistic view of a child's engagement when selecting a Remote Recognition recipient. It might be based on their overall effort or a specific task. Children handing in work after the assembly time on Friday will be considered for the following weeks.



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Are there any instructions on how to upload tasks completed on paper or general IT guides?

There is a range of instructions and guides on the 'Google Classroom' section of the school website – www.woodheadprimary.co.uk

If you have a question about any aspect of using Google Classroom, please get in touch. We are more than happy to assist.

Can there be Glow Meets every morning to set the day? Can the Glow Meets be longer?

Glow Meets are a key part to our Remote Learning offer.

When scheduling Meets across the week, we take a number of factors into account: a variety of times to ensure children are able to join as many as possible that are scheduled for their class; families that are balancing multiple Glow Meets, including children in secondary schools; staff working days in the hub; availability of support staff who are also working in the hub, etc.

We will continue to develop our Glow Meets to maximise their benefit for learning and teaching.

Can we use Google Meets for increased social interactions with friends/classmates?

We know children are missing out on social time with their friends in school. The focus of Google Meets needs to remain on pupil/teacher interaction and primarily about learning. As we access Google Meet via the secure Glow intranet, it can only be used for learning purposes.

Is there support available for children who require individual input?

Class Teachers differentiate their tasks where needed and assign them to individuals and groups. Assigned tasks are only visible to the children they are targeted for.

We are developing our plans to be able to offer some of our support interventions via Google Meet.

I am overwhelmed/stressed by Remote Learning/I am worried my child will fall behind.

We know that Remote Learning is far from easy and that everyone is juggling work and family commitments. Do as much as you are able to do and make it work for your individual circumstances.

For some families, having a structure to the day will really be beneficial. For others, it will work better to be flexible and work around the times that your child is more motivated.

We are happy to guide and advise families and help them create a system for Remote Learning that works for them – please give us a call and we will help you in any way we can.

Further advice on supporting your child's learning at home can be found on the Parent Club Scotland website: <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/learning-at-home-resources>



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Some lovely compliments...

"I think the teachers are doing a fantastic job"

"I think it is wonderful having videos of teachers explaining how to do certain tasks – no one can do this better than their own teachers."

"Thanks for all the work going into providing interesting and challenging work and feedback"

"I cannot thank the teachers enough for the time they must be putting into Remote Learning to ensure our children have all they need to learn at home. I am extremely grateful for that"

"I think you are all doing a fantastic job. We struggle time-wise, but the type of work is perfect. The quiz on the Meet was an absolute treat. Thank you for all you do."

"I really appreciate all the effort the school has made. My child has been in the hub and at home and has had an enjoyable experience with both. Thank you all so much."

"I think the teachers and support staff are very supportive and engaging. Their comments on the work are helpful."

"I would like to say a massive thank you to every teacher involved in Remote Learning. From the assemblies, birthday shoutouts, and all the time and effort being put in to making all the work available for the children every week in these difficult times. It makes a huge difference to have this connection with the school."

"Thank you for all the hard work (you) have put into Google Classrooms & Meets."