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Dear Parent/Carer

11th January 2021

Remote Learning

We have now had a few days for everyone to get used to using Seesaw, our remote learning platform and we have been overwhelmed with positive feedback which is fantastic.

Obviously, it is early days for all us and we are still working on getting the balance of work and type of activities right so please bear with us. We are very conscious of the pressure on parents to deliver home schooling and we are trying our very best to meet the needs of everyone. Similarly, we are conscious of how much time our children are spending on screen time and we are looking at ways that we can fulfil our legal obligation and meet the requirements of the DfE whilst taking a sensible, reasonable and caring approach to the mental health and well-being of our children, parents and staff.

As such we have provided a Remote Learning Guidance and Permission document. All parents should read this document and then sign and return the permission slip to the school office or email it to admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk.

In addition, we have provided a document entitled Social Media Guidelines and I would appreciate it if parents could go through this document with their child.

As expected there are a few teething problems and therefore I am writing to try to clarify a few things:

- Children are expected to do the activities set by their Class Teacher – this is remote education and is not optional.
- Children have 48 hours to complete any task set.
- Teachers will chase up children who are not accessing learning or who are not returning completed work.
- Work **MUST** be completed to our usual high standards as if the child is working in the classroom – if not children will be asked to resubmit their work.

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- Parents should be monitoring what their children are posting on Seesaw and ensuring that it follows our Remote Learning Policy and Guidance document.
- Please be aware that other children and parents may be able to see what your child has posted so please ensure nothing is going on in the background of videos which you wouldn't want anyone to see.
- Teachers will only respond to Seesaw posts between 8am – 5pm Monday to Friday to ensure that they have some semblance of work life balance.
- They have been told to prioritise marking and feedback on work which has been set and not respond to 'chatty' messages unless they have time to do so.
- Teachers are also teaching children in school, attending meetings, planning and preparing work for Seesaw, dealing with pastoral issues and many other tasks every day. Children should not expect immediate and constant contact from their Class Teacher.
- Please ensure that all photos which are uploaded are clear and legible as we have had a number of uploads which we cannot read due to picture quality.

Given how quickly this new way of working and learning has taken place, I am incredibly proud of our team and am so impressed with how the children have responded. There are bound to be further teething problems and we will all work together to make this difficult and challenging time as painless as possible for everyone.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me and please – be kind to yourselves.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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