



# PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mathews Park Avenue, London E15 4AE  
Tel: 020 8534 4065 • Email: info@park.newham.sch.uk

Dear parents and carers,

12/10/20

Firstly, may I thank you again for all of the support you provide to us on a daily basis in relation to the challenges which we are all facing. We are trying to adapt and amend what we used to do so that it is responsive to the current situation and allows us to be better prepared for an unknown future. We appreciate though that in all the change, it is sometimes hard to keep up and stay informed. Please may I remind you never to worry about asking a question; the letter below is sent after some questions have been asked so we felt it would be best to provide general clarification.

## Home Learning vs Homework - I am confused!

We wanted to clarify and set out the **government and school expectations for learning from home** now that the education situation has changed since the summer term. Looking back to the summer term, attending school was an option - pupils came if their year group was required to come in and if parents were comfortable sending them back. However, the situation now is very different - **all pupils need to be attending school (or learning from home if they have been required to stay at home for Covid reasons)**.

If your child is attending classes in school, then the only expectation for them is to complete the weekly homework tasks which are to be found in the Google Classroom folder usually named **Weekly Homework and Spellings**. We have decided to move all homework where possible to being online so that we can empower all children over time to be increasingly independent in logging into their classroom and learning online.

If your child is out of school for reasons such as isolating, quarantining or they have an injury like a broken ankle, where they are generally physically and mentally well, then it is the expectation that they continue their learning from home so that they don't fall behind. The English and Maths lessons and assignments will be found in a folder named Weekly English & Maths or for some Year groups within folders for each named day - assignments need to be handed-in to the teacher on time via Google Classroom. Some days there will be other subjects to carry out too - these will be found in the daily folders.

*If your child is ill, sick or unwell, then there is no expectation to join in the learning from home unless they feel able to do so. If your child is not well enough to attend school, we accept and expect that they are also not well enough to engage in their lessons remotely.*

## What if the whole bubble closes?

If the class or school is required to stay at home, for Covid reasons or in the case of last Weds 7th Oct - when there was a closure because of the water supply, then the expectation is that the children will join in the learning which will take the form of live Google Meet lessons with the teachers, and various tasks and assignments will be set for the children to complete, just as they would if they were learning from school.



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### What about devices?

We are doing what we can to help with some of the technical issues that families are experiencing with online learning. When pupils are required to isolate and learn from home we have been doing what we can to loan out the limited number of laptops we have to those who really need them. However, we cannot loan out devices for children to complete the weekly Homework tasks which are now set online. We do apologize for this, but we are not in a position to loan devices for weekly homework and to continue with the computer-based lessons in school for the hundreds of pupils still attending. We understand that within some families there are many pupils and there is a shortage of devices and that for everyone to complete the weekly homework on time is a real struggle. To this end, we are inviting various pupils from different year groups to attend a Space to Study club after school with a member of the teaching staff so that they could complete their homework on the devices we have in school. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like your child to be considered for this.

**Please note:** if your child has been loaned a device from school because they are isolating, they must bring it back as soon as they return to school so that we can loan the devices to others in the same situation.

### Parent Consultation Day

Because we expect that the transition time between each meeting on 22nd September will take longer than usual, the Governing Board have agreed for the school to close for the full day rather than the originally stated half day. **We are closed all day on 22/10/20.** Your children will have some learning to complete online that day and then we trust that you will make your parent appointment with your teacher at a convenient time. Please see the newsletter for details and the communication relating to the event which came out from school today.

Please try to appreciate that we cannot conduct these sessions in any other way; we hope that the Zoom meeting will still provide a meaningful opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher; to discuss their targets and their progress to date.

### We are here for you and we understand

Please remember that we will be better prepared to get through this if we do it together. As a community, we will be stronger through transparent communication, understanding and through responding positively to that with which we are dealing.

We understand the stress that people are under and we want to support you in ensuring that your children are safe and learning; we can help you better if you talk to us so that we can support you in finding a solution to any of your online learning queries.

Yours respectfully as always,

Natasha Ttofalli