



# Bernards Heath Infant and Nursery School

Sandridge Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 4AP  
admin@bernardsheath.herts.sch.uk  
www.bernardsheath.herts.sch.uk  
01727 852106

Head: Mrs H. Rimmer

8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you so much for your patience, support and bearing with us as we navigate through this week with changes coming daily.

Following on from the critical worker survey that we sent out, analysing the number of children we expect, we will be seeing many more children attend school than when we were under national restrictions back in March. *We trust that you are only sending your children to school if your role is truly **critical**.*

This means that we have more staff working in school, working their normal working pattern. Each school is unique, has different circumstances and therefore cannot be compared. In our school, for every year group apart from Year 2 there are 2 bubbles. In Year 2 we have 3 bubbles and in Nursery there is 1 bubble.

As we are now in a period of remote learning, I am writing to remind you of the systems we are using and procedures involved, as well as answer some questions we have had. We are aiming to make this as easy as possible for all children and parents, whilst ensuring we are moving learning forward.

We understand that every family will be juggling a unique set of circumstances. Any support you can give will benefit your child. Seesaw allows you to complete tasks at the time that suits you and your family. From our parent survey we understand that children have varying amounts of access to laptops/tablets. We ask that you prioritise the daily English (including reading) and maths. If you aren't accessing every piece of learning set on Seesaw, we do understand. If you aren't accessing any of the learning set, we will be in touch to find out how we can support you.

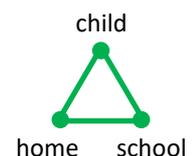
We will be setting work in line with the government expectation for all children of a primary school age to receive an average of 3 hours of learning per day. It is imperative the work is completed so that your child is not impacted any more than they need to be by Covid-related absence. The remote learning that is put on Seesaw for each class will be mirrored in the classroom. Work at home and in school will run in parallel and match in terms of content and presentation. All children will receive the same materials with the only exception being where the learning takes place and who is supporting that learning. The learning will be sequential so it will not work if you pick and choose what you will do for each task. Unlike the previous lockdown school remains statutory and the remote learning will need to be completed at home and uploaded onto Seesaw.

**Nursery** will provide a daily letter and sounds task, a numbers rhyme task as well as a weekly story, rhyme time and a weekly grid which covers the Prime and Specific areas of the EYFS curriculum.

**Reception** will provide a daily phonics task, Maths or Literacy task and a topic theme based task.



University of  
Hertfordshire **UH**



**Year 1** will provide a daily English or Maths task, a phonics task and a theme or Science task.

**Year 2** will provide a daily phonics task, English and Maths task and a Geography or Science task.

We anticipate that this will evolve and increase gradually

Class teachers will communicate via Seesaw. This remains the most effective route for questions or queries. We have arranged for each Year group to have a member of staff managing Seesaw during the day. They will also feedback on work whilst your child's class teacher is in school

Work can be presented in various ways. It can be done directly on the platform itself, or on paper and then a photo of it submitted. Teachers will be checking and assessing every day, so it is important to try to keep handing in working daily, as they can then feedback where necessary. Children will be able to send messages to their teacher through Seesaw if they need help. Please don't communicate with your child's teacher on your child's work. We would strongly encourage all children to complete the work set, where possible, to enable them to maintain progress. Staff will contact parents if the work is not being submitted regularly to help with issues or offer support.

Why are the school not delivering live lessons?

This decision has been made after careful consideration of government guidelines, where research has shown that live lessons are not the most successful way for children to learn. It has been found that filmed modelling and planned sequential learning, which can be accessed by parents at a convenient time for them, as well as providing opportunity for this to be replayed, has a greater impact. This is especially the case, when there is more than one child in a family and, consequently, limited access to a device. Therefore, we will endeavour to provide videos to support the learning where possible, especially when this is new learning. We will utilise different recommended resources such as Oak Academy to deliver these.

We understand that there are a wide ranging mix of family circumstances and, while no school can see into each and every family's homes to check on their situations, we have engaged with parents in many different ways and have evaluated all feedback since we were previously in this position.

We believe that we have the right combination of provision and delivery and our staff have worked very hard in their PPA time this week to get it ready for next week. That said, the staff will adapt and evaluate as they move through the early stages of this lockdown period so that plans are refined and tuned to work as effectively as possible for us all.

We do not underestimate the job in hand for you at home and will support you all the way.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you.

Miss Cooper