



**The Federation of
Hackbridge Primary School and Spencer Nursery School**

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Dear Parents and Carers

VARIOUS UPDATES – PLEASE READ

We are endeavouring to keep everyone up to date with information as soon as we are made aware of any changes. Please read through the headings below for current updates.

Google Classrooms/Remote Learning

All pupils in the school have an [@hackbridge.org.uk](https://hackbridge.org.uk) G-Suite for Education account which we sent details home about in the autumn term. This is the account that your child has been using in school, as well as at home previously, and should continue to use now to access their Google Classroom for their daily online learning during this period. You do not need a “join” code for the classroom as all pupil accounts are automatically enrolled to their relevant classroom.

The easiest way to see what learning has been uploaded for your child is to click on the “Classwork” heading at the top of the Google Classroom page – the “Stream” view is not the way to search for the day’s learning.

We are currently looking at how we can continue to expand our remote learning offer to pupils. We are looking at the viability of adding some live lessons from teachers within the year group as well as continuing to use Loom to add video explanations to lesson slides. We are also looking into how support staff who usually deliver intervention groups can continue to deliver these remotely also. **Please look out for invites to Google Meets on your child’s Google Classroom.**

The BBC also announced televised educational programmes which they will make available from 11th January 2021. We do not know whether these will align with the curriculum that we are teaching so it is not yet possible to say whether these will be able to form part of our learning offer. We will need to review these in terms of their topic content and then we will send you further information about this. What we are delivering is in line with the bespoke curriculum that we plan for children at our school in this term – we do not yet know whether the topics that the BBC chooses to cover will be the same as these or not.

Accessing Google Classroom from Xbox or PlayStation

Information has been circulating across Twitter platforms today to say that Google Classrooms can be accessed via Xbox and PlayStation consoles. As we do not have consoles in school to check this on, we cannot test this yet, but advice appears to be:

“Pupils can use the built-in browsers that come on the two devices to access Google Classrooms.

On Xbox, it is Microsoft Edge. On Playstation, it is the “www” browser. If you do not already know how to find the browser on your console, each one has a search function that can be accessed on the home screen.

Once the browser has been opened:

1. Type in classroom.google.com in the URL bar.
2. A prompt for a Google account will appear.
3. Log in with your child’s school G Suite account details.
4. The Classroom home screen will open up.

If you have a keyboard, they can plug it in to the console which will make navigation easier. Otherwise, you will have to use the games controllers to click on the classroom tiles and open up assignments to view these. You should be able to interact with video and written instructions. We believe that it is possible to open attachments like Google Docs and Google Slides and type on them. It is not as easy to type with a controller, but you can access content to view.”

Devices for disadvantaged pupils in Years 3 to 6 without access to remote learning

In his speech to the nation on Monday evening, the prime minister, Boris Johnson, made reference to schools being able to access devices for children who are unable to attend school and have no access to remote learning at this time. We have since received a number of enquiries on this point.

However, to be clear, the full guidance for schools is that schools are permitted to order a limited allocation of devices for disadvantaged children (this means those in receipt of Pupil Premium) in years 3 to 11 who do not have access to a device and whose face to face education is disrupted.

Our limited allocation from the government is unfortunately not even enough for every child in receipt of Pupil Premium in Years 3-6 to be offered a device. Our current devices have been allocated.

Internet access for disadvantaged pupils in Years 3 to 6

The DfE is working in partnership with some mobile network operators to help schools support disadvantaged pupils in years 3 to 11 who rely on a mobile internet connection when their face-to-face education is disrupted by coronavirus (COVID-19). If this affects you, please contact Mr Jasper at the school.

FSM provision during this lockdown period

If your child is entitled to benefits-related free school meals and you applied for them to attend school in this period, then they will continue to be fed a hot school dinner.

If your child is entitled to benefits-related free school meals and they are currently at home with you doing remote learning, then we will be ordering a voucher for 1 week today to cover this school week, as an extension of the winter scheme that covered the holiday period. For the following 5 weeks, as decided by the local authority, Caterlink will be arranging food hampers for parental collection from the London Road school site, which we will be sending out more details about when they are ready.

Phone and Email

Just a reminder to say that the school is open and contactable during usual School Office opening hours on 020 8647 7974 or by email to office@hackbridgeprimary.sutton.sch.uk. Parents/Carers should not otherwise attend the School Office unless invited by the school.

Start and Finish Times

For those pupils with agreed places who are currently attending the school sites, due to the reduced number of pupils in school at the current time, we will temporarily revert to our normal drop off and pick up times for Reception to Year 6:

Drop off:

8.35am-8.45am at Hackbridge Corner
8.50am-9.00am at London Road

Collection time:

3.10pm (Reception to Year 2) and 3.15pm (KS2) at Hackbridge Corner
3.25pm (Reception to Year 2) at London Road

The sessions times for Nursery classes remain unchanged:

Caterpillars: 8.45am-11.45am

Tadpoles: 12.20pm-3.20pm

Honeybees: 9.15am-3.15pm

Ventilation in classrooms on school sites

In line with government guidance to keep rooms well ventilated during this time, we do have windows open in all rooms that are in use in the school, as per our risk assessment which is published on our website. We continue to remind those parents whose children are attending school to send them in with additional layers for warmth.

Yours faithfully 

Emma Walford, Headteacher