



Principal: S Cumper
info@hardingmemorial.belfast.ni.sch.uk



Remote Learning Organisational Information

Harding Memorial Primary School
105 Cregagh Road
Belfast BT6 8PZ
Telephone: 028 90458040
Fax: 028 90460917



Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well and that all of your loved ones are continuing to stay safe. This most recent **“lockdown”** will have meant that every single member of our school community will have experienced drastic changes to their normal established routine. Many of you may have vulnerable family members that you are worried about and are unable to visit. I have no doubt that for a very significant number of families this has been a “tough couple of weeks”. **Please be assured that you are not alone. HMPS is there for you. If you have a problem – Please Contact Our School.**

Every Primary School Child in Northern Ireland is out of school, so you are not on your own. You know your own child/children. You know what works for them and your family. There is no right or perfect answer - **what is right is what works for you. It is important that we all continue to set ourselves realistic expectations with regard to Remote Learning** – what you will do at home can never replicate the Classroom Face To Face Classroom Learning Experience - but just continue to do the best you can. Please also remember that it is vital to maintain a Work and Life Balance both for Adults and Children. As Principal I feel that Harding Memorial Primary School has been well prepared for this eventuality since the start of the current school year as we have made a very significant financial investment with Digital Learning available via Seesaw, Bug Club, Education City, TT Rockstars etc. **Remote Learning will start for all Primary 1 to Primary 7 pupils from Tuesday 5th January 2021 onwards and I would like to confirm the following organisational procedures below will all Parent/Guardians:**

- ✓ Harding Memorial Primary School will be assigning work twice a day via Seesaw. Work will be made available from 9.00am each day and additional “afternoon work” will be made available from 1.00pm. We feel that these organisational arrangements will allow the children to be in a better position to “duplicate the school day experience”
- ✓ The work completed by the children will be “marked each day” unless it is submitted after 4.00pm. If it is submitted after 4pm, then it will be marked the following day.
- ✓ Each Class Teacher will be available online between 9.00am and 4.00pm to answer any questions that Pupils or Parents may have about their work. Please be aware that

Seesaw is the Primary Method of Communication between Pupil and Class Teacher.

- ✓ Please remember to encourage your child/children to have a break and lunch time as they normally would have at school. In addition, we would encourage all children to “Take A Regular Screen Break” during their day of Remote Learning
- ✓ There are a number of On-Line Resources such as Bug Club, Education City that your child may be directed to use by their Class Teacher – but they should continue to “Start with Seesaw” to access their daily Morning/Afternoon Learning Instructions.
- ✓ We have responded to Parental Feedback from the previous Remote Learning time from March/June 2020 and each Class Teacher will be recording an explanation of what they want the children to do in each activity they assign via Seesaw
- ✓ This recording will include various information such as: the main teaching points, an explanation of the activity and any prior learning that may help the child to complete the activity. We feel that this will further enhance your child’s educational experience

My thanks go to all the School Teaching and Non-Teaching staff in Harding Memorial Primary School. They have responded incredibly well to the last minute decision making by our Minister of Education. All School Staff work hard to provide the most appropriate approaches for your children as they continue to support and guide them as best they can both inside and outside of school. Their professionalism, dedication and expertise is very much appreciated by myself as Principal of Harding Memorial P.S.

I hope that the attached information is self-explanatory, but if any Parent/Guardian has any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me at your earliest possible convenience.

Yours sincerely

Mr Stephen Cumper

Principal

Harding Memorial Primary School