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Dear Parent/Carer

Learning and Teaching -Digital Learning Plans

I hope this letter finds you well. Team Stenhouse have been working incredibly hard to plan how our learning is going to look for this summer term. There are going to be some changes which have been possible because so many of you completed the Digital Learning survey and we have a better picture of what we can do – Thank You!

However, before I go on to explain these improvements, I want to reinforce our constant message that these extraordinary times are putting families under huge pressure (and that includes our school staff too) so please only do what you can manage as a family and continue to get in touch if we can help in any way at all. This isn't a competition and whilst we are all in the same storm together, we may not all be in the same boat, so do what is right for the health and wellbeing of your family.

From Tuesday 5th May P5-P7 will begin to have access to an online platform called TEAMS on Microsoft 365. This is already happening in P7 with lots of pupils already interacting with their teacher.

P1-P4 will follow in the not too distant future, once our ICT providers have set up the school accounts for us. We cannot do this ourselves as we do not have access to the systems required when we are not in our school buildings.

TEAMS will allow pupils to message their teachers, submit work either as a photo or as an upload and for teachers to provide feedback and use this information to plan the next learning grids. It looks a little bit like a facebook page.

Our Learning Grids will be on TEAMS as well as on the school website as before.

Please have a look at the bullet point list to see an overview of what to expect and how it will (hopefully!!) work.

In the next few days, P5 and P6 pupils will receive a login and password for their class TEAM. This will be sent via Parentpay. Please keep this safe as we cannot reset them unless we get access to our school. We will also provide a direct link to Microsoft 365 and a "How To" video to help you access the Digital Classroom. We will also put the help videos onto our school website. If you cannot solve any issues yourself, please email admin@stenhouse.edin.sch.uk with any questions you have. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

There will also be weekly teaching videos and clips containing new learning, linked to the learning grids and we will continue to use Twitter to keep in touch but with less Learning and Teaching on it. We are aiming to become really good at 1 or 2 digital platforms rather than playing around with lots of different ones. Microsoft TEAMS is what City of Edinburgh Council have rolled out to use as it meets the strict GDPR protection rules.

This is an ever-evolving situation and we are having to learn new teaching techniques and come up with new creative ways of supporting our pupils so please have patience with us!! We might not get it right straight away – technology can be a funny thing! I will ask for feedback after we have had this operating for a couple of weeks to see how things are going.

So fingers crossed, this is what we hope to roll out over the next few weeks:

- Each class will have their own TEAMS page – like a Digital Classroom named after your class -eg P2A
- Only pupils/families from that class will have access to their Digital Classroom.
- Learning grids will still be done for the week ahead and will be on the school website but also uploaded to your class TEAM.
- Each week, three new concepts/lessons will be taught. One literacy, one numeracy and one other (from across the curriculum). One video input will accompany each new concept taught.
- Teachers may include further videos, eg reading class novel, if they can balance their workload with family and other school commitments.
- Teachers will be available for questions/ interaction at a given point in the week. Teachers will let pupils and parents know in advance when they will be online to support. This may change every week depending on staff Hub commitments and family responsibilities. This might be indicated on the learning grids and/or via Twitter. Teachers may use TEAMS chat to reply by message or may be able to have short video interactions – this is not an expectation but I know some staff may prefer to do this.
- The Additional Support for Learning team will have their own Teams page to share learning with their pupils.
- Pupils will be asked to submit their work, either as a photo or as an online document for the 3 Key Learning Points each week, by Thursday. That is the work that teachers will provide feedback on and will use to plan for the following teaching inputs. There will be an opportunity to celebrate wider-achievements via TEAMS but please don't upload every piece of work from the learning grids. This will be unmanageable for the staff and will reduce the opportunities for planning for progression in literacy/numeracy.

I appreciate this is a lot to take in, but please be reassured that lots of P7 pupils are already using it and it is going well.

We will be in touch with further information about this as soon as we get it.

Stay safe, stay home.

With best wishes

Laura Monaghan
Head Teacher