



Home learning for Years 3 – 6 – Parent Questions and Answers



We would like to thank the parents and carers of all the pupils at Carrington Junior School for everything they have done and continue to do to support their child's learning at this time. It is still a time of unprecedented national emergency and we appreciate it has been a very hard time for many of our families and staff. Just as schools had very little notice before closure, families have had very little time to prepare for the situation they have found themselves in. Your children remain at the forefront of our minds and as soon as it is safe to do so, we look forward to welcoming them all back to school.

We hope that the following responses to commonly asked questions will help you to understand what the school are providing to help your child at this difficult time.

The government guidance for supporting your child's learning can be found [here](#).

What home learning are you providing?

We are providing 2-weekly projects, which are mostly linked to science or topic-based work. Alongside the main piece of project work there is also some maths and links to other areas of learning.

There is also a section called 'Activities for all' which includes links to some reading, art, computing and other activities such as virtual tours the children might like to explore.

If children still want to do more, we have provided links to BBC Bitesize daily lessons and they have access to Mathletics, where they can print off comprehensive workbooks and answer books, play maths games or compete for points.

What if my child isn't working at age related expectations yet?

The home learning tasks are either open ended with support for learners so they can complete them at their level, or there are different levels of task on the website and you will be advised through SeeSaw which level is appropriate for your child.

What if my child finds some of the maths too hard?

The maths work set, includes a range of questions. These increase in difficulty within each day's work. For the White Rose Maths work which has been used over the last few weeks, the first five questions are at roughly the expected level for the age group. The final few questions are very challenging questions, intended for those pupils who have completed the previous work easily. Particularly in maths, we will always extend challenges to the pupils and within school we promote having a go, but also support each child in acknowledging where their personal level of challenge is and pushing themselves at their own level. Please do not worry if your child cannot do all the maths questions.

What if my child doesn't complete a project within two weeks?

If they really love the project or task they are working on they can keep working on it. But it's fine to move onto a new project too if that's what they'd prefer.

Can work be marked?

We aren't marking the home learning projects in school because feedback is most effective when it's done face to face, or very soon after the work is completed. Since the work we are setting is longer term project work, this isn't appropriate. Teachers are responding to photos of work that pupils are particularly proud of on SeeSaw. When



pupils return to school we will look at their projects and award their efforts for each project generously with merits. If you haven't sent in a photo of any work yet, why not ask your child if there is a particular piece they would like to share with their teacher? Answers are also provided to maths and comprehension tasks on the home learning hub or online so pupils can check what they have done.

Are you doing video lessons?

All our teachers are currently teaching either Year 6 pupils in small groups or looking after Key Worker children every day. We have had one of the highest uptakes of places locally for our partial reopening so this limits the capacity we have to provide video lessons. However, where it is appropriate, we are posting learning videos alongside our home learning tasks, such as the White Rose maths and some science tasks.

In order to provide live video learning safely for children, guidelines state that an adult at home should be present alongside their child, which would put additional demands on already busy households. It would also require two teachers to be present in school and each pupil to have access to their own device at the same time as many parents are working themselves; Some of our families do not have access to enough devices to be able to do this at scheduled times at the same time as parents complete their work tasks. Additionally, all our teachers have a range of scheduled tasks to complete when they are out of class two to three afternoons a week, which include creating home learning materials and responding to SeeSaw (This task alone takes between one to two hours each day).

My child is very emotional. How can I support them?

It is normal for all of us to have a range of emotions at a time like this, including our children. Sometimes simply talking to them can help. There are a range of links and resources to further support our families in the '[Looking after yourself](#)' section of the home learning hub.

Some children have found it quite difficult to respond to learning in a home environment where space may be at a premium, or where they may not have as much direct support as they do at school. The following ideas can help:

- Make sure your child has a dedicated space to work. If they have their own desk that's great but if they are sharing spaces such as kitchen tables or breakfast bars, try helping them to clear an area before they get started, or have an item such as a pencil pot to signify that it is learning time.
- Switch off TVs and non-work devices so they don't get distracted.
- Try to create ground rules (particularly with younger siblings) about not distracting during 'learning time'.
- Involve your child in planning a timetable. This doesn't have to be a big creative activity if that's not a personal strength. Why not try discussing the learning at the start of the day and writing down 3 main tasks on post-it notes or bits of paper, so they can have a sense of what they aim to achieve in a day.
- Let them break up learning with activities they choose. Home learning can be quite intensive and all children need to take breaks. Two to three hours a day split into smaller chunks is a great target to aim for.

Year 6 are back at school. When can my child come back to school?

The government have indicated that Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 should return to school on 1st June at the earliest. They have currently issued guidance about some secondary pupils returning to school from the 15th of June at the earliest. They have not yet issued any other guidance. We are continually monitoring guidance, which is updated daily and will be in touch as soon as we have any further information.



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Is the 11 plus going ahead as normal in September?

As far as we know, the 11 plus is still going ahead. We are currently waiting for further advice from county and will inform parents about any updates.

How can I contact the school?

You can continue to contact your child's normal class teacher through SeeSaw about home learning. You can also continue to contact the school office through the school email or telephone.

(This document will be frequently updated, as necessary)