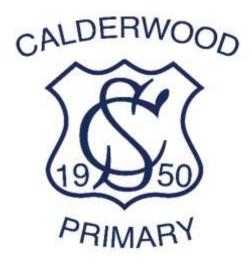
### **Calderwood Primary School**



# Home Learning Guidance for Parents and Carers



### Session 2020/2021

Updated November 2020

# Home Learning: General Information

As we all know, our children's learning is not confined to the four walls of their classroom. Home learning is a broad term to describe the learning that takes place outwith school. It incorporates everything from play and everyday activities, to curriculum based learning including homework.

In order to keep you fully informed about what home learning looks like at Calderwood, we have created this guide for you, our parents and carers. We hope you find it informative and helpful. I know that it is very comprehensive (i.e. wordy!), however, we have planned for all the eventualities we may face this session in order to be as prepared as possible during these very uncertain times. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school (contact details are included in this guide).

### **Home Learning Information Grids**

You have been provided with a 'home learning grid' for your child. This grid holds all of the information necessary for your child to access home learning in one place. Please keep this updated with password changes, etc. Information will be updated by the class teacher, as necessary.

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### Homework



Homework is the provision of tasks and activities by the class teacher for pupils who are attending school to complete at home. These tasks and activities will complement, consolidate and enhance the learning that is taking place in the classroom.

Homework should not cause stress to either the child or their parent. If you are finding it difficult to engage your child in homework to the point that it is becoming a source of anxiety in the home, please contact your child's class teacher to discuss. Likewise, if your child is unsure of a task or activity – don't worry! Ask them to speak to their teacher or contact the teacher by email to clarify. We know that this is a particularly stressful time for many of our families and homework should not add any additional pressure – pupil and parent/carer wellbeing comes first!

#### At Calderwood:

- Homework activities will be issued through Google Classroom;
- Literacy and numeracy tasks will be issued every Monday to be completed by the Friday of that week;
- Pupils and parents may choose when tasks are completed over the course of the week;
- Homework covering other curricular areas will also be provided; these activities may be given over a longer period of time (i.e. a few weeks), including weekends; and
- Homework will also be used to promote the development of life skills, such as practicing shoe-lace tying, etc.

Please note: In line with our previous policy on homework, only minimal amounts of homework will be given during the months of December and June.

# Pupils Learning from Home Due to Illness or Self-Isolation



Pupils will sometimes be absent from school due to illness or, especially at the moment, self-isolation. If your child is only absent for a few days due to illness, there is no expectation that home learning takes place – if they are too poorly to be at school, they will not be well enough to undertake learning at home, and a few missed days of learning will be caught up when the child returns to school. However, if your child is absent from school for a length of time due to self-isolation or a longer-term illness, home learning will be provided for them.

#### At Calderwood:

- As soon as you alert the school that your child will be absent for a period of time due to self-isolation, a home learning pack will be made available for your child in the school office;
- Please arrange for someone to come to the office to collect this pack (not a person who is also self-isolating) which contains generic work for their stage;
- In addition to these packs, literacy and numeracy activities will be uploaded to your child's Google Classroom;
- The Google Classroom tasks and activities will specifically relate to the work being carried out in class to ensure your child is kept up-to-date in their learning;
- Your child's Google Classroom will be updated every few days;
- Pupils can message the class teacher through Google Classroom to ask any questions they have, however, please remember that teachers will be carrying out their usual duties in school, and response times will reflect this;
- This process will continue until your child returns to school; and
- If you have any problems or concerns about the work being provided, please either email the class teacher or telephone the school to speak to a member of staff.

## **Whole Class Home Learning**

This would apply in the instance that a whole class were self-isolating or all working from home at the same time. This may include periods of school closure (for example, due to adverse weather conditions).

#### At Calderwood:

- Tasks will be added to Google Classroom on a daily basis for children;
- There will be new literacy and numeracy tasks each day these will be the 'core tasks' to be completed;
- 'Additional tasks' covering other curricular areas will also be provided;
- Every day there will be an opportunity to interact in real-time with the class teacher through Google Classroom;
- The teacher will let the class know well in advance when this will be;
- Feedback will be given to pupils on completed tasks;
- There will also be live Google Meets or video lessons posted by the teacher over the course of the week;
- Times for Google Meets will also be provided by the teacher in advance; and
- We would ask that pupils/parents please mark tasks as complete or comment on the task so that teachers know that they have engaged in the activity.



### **Blended Learning**



This would apply if pupils were only attending school part of the week (as was initially proposed for our return in August). Please note: we have no expectation that blended learning is being considered as an option at this time, we just want to ensure that we are prepared for all potential home learning scenarios.

#### At Calderwood:

- New learning will take place when children are in school in front of their class teacher;
- The focus of all new learning will be literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing;
- Home learning will consolidate and reinforce learning that has taken place in school;
- Home learning will consist of both work sent home with each child and activities on Google Classroom;
- Google Classroom tasks will focus on literacy and numeracy core tasks, but also include work covering the six other curricular areas;
- As the class teacher will be teaching whilst children are learning from home, there will be no opportunity for 'live' interaction; and
- Teachers should be contacted by email if any issues arise with the home learning activities.

### **Issues with Home Learning**



We are aware that home learning can be difficult for a variety of reasons, including access to technology, time, support, and space.

If you are experiencing any general problems with the work being set, please contact your child's class teacher by email.



If you have an issue accessing appropriate IT equipment, please contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

All other technical enquiries should go to our ICT Coordinator, Maureen Waddell.



#### Our email addresses are as follows:

- Mrs Innes (Head Teacher): <u>gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk</u>
- Mrs Ring (Depute Head Teacher): <u>gw07ringjillian@glow.sch.uk</u>
- Mrs Combe (Depute Head Teacher): <u>gw10combeashley@glow.sch.uk</u>
- Mrs Kirkland (Depute Head Teacher): <u>gw10kirklandjulie2@glow.sch.uk</u>
- Mrs Waddell (ICT Coordinator): <u>gw07waddellmaureen01@glow.sch.uk</u>