

Home Learning Survey Responses

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the home learning survey. In the spirit of openness and transparency, here are the full outcomes as well as a summary of key themes.

107 responses

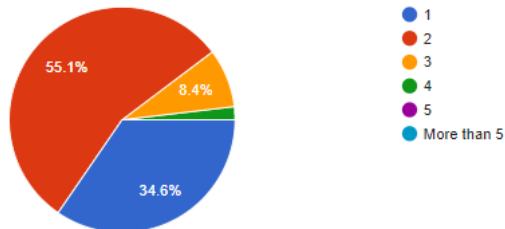


Accepting responses



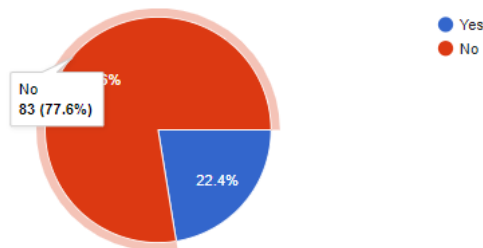
How many school age children are currently in your household?

107 responses



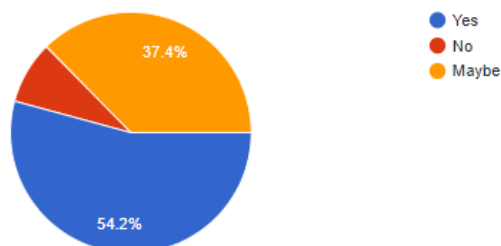
Have you accessed a phone call from your child's class teacher while schools have been closed to the majority of children?

107 responses



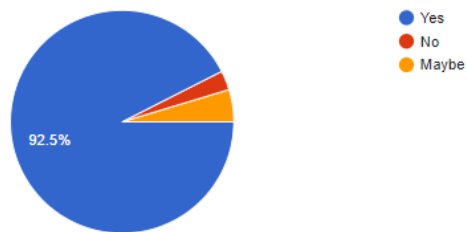
Would you find it beneficial for your child to have contact with school via a video platform such as Skype, Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Jitsi?

107 responses



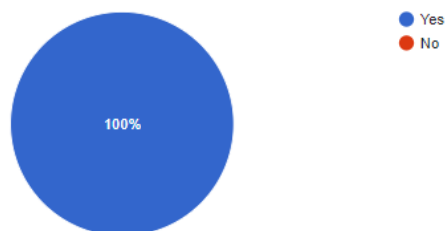
Would you allow your child to access a video call platform such as Skype, Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Jitsi?

107 responses



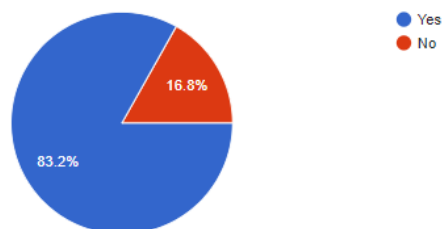
Do you have at least one device in your home on which your child or children could access a video call platform?

107 responses



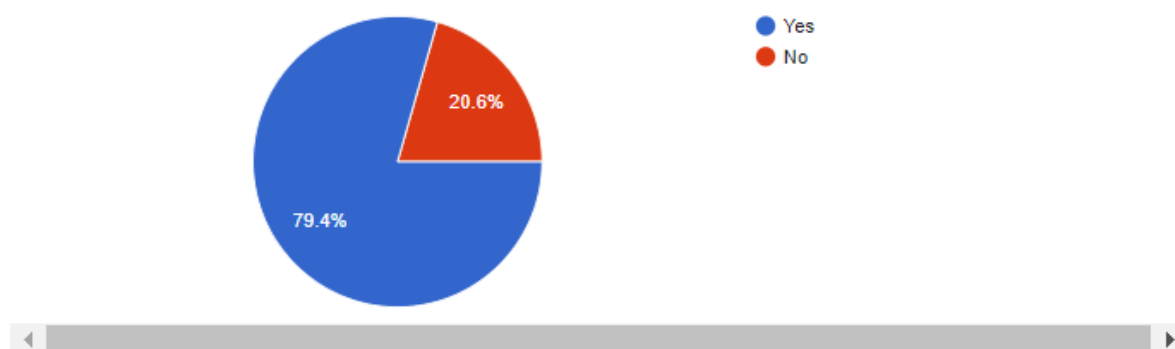
Do you have have enough devices to enable more than one child to access video calls at the same time?

107 responses



Have you accessed video materials from online sources such as BBC Bitesize or Oakwood Academy through the links sent from school?

107 responses



Any further suggestions of how families could be supported at this time. 46 responses.

In the spirit of openness and transparency we are sharing all the comments. We have only redacted where names or the nature of comments would identify individual children, parents or families.

There is also a short summary of common themes emerging from the comments.

Key Themes from Comments

- Recognition of the challenging nature of the context and that everyone is doing their best.
- Recognition that each household is different. Flexibility to approaches is helpful.
- Seeing and hearing from school adults and class peers will be helpful and motivational.

We have listened to you and are acting on it.

- From Monday 4th May we will begin to make use of Zoom video calling (see additional letter re this)
- We will be trying to provide a more blended flexible approach with more choices
- We will be trying to provide more content for children to listen to or watch to explain concepts and ideas and help them work. We will try to use content that can be viewed anytime
- We continue to give our reassurance as outlined in our letter
- We are setting up Microsoft teams as a platform for posting the learning rather than emailing. As we need consent (see letter on 'Parentmail') and some input from our ICT support this will take a little time. We will keep you posted.

All Comments as given

Part of the school day to be via a video platform

What would be really useful would be to have some allotted slots when we can have a 121 with the teacher to go through the learning program and get some help and tips on teaching and the subject matter.

*It would be nice for ***** to just 'see' his teachers. Absolutely would not expect him to be taught in zoom and would be equally happy with just a photo or short video just for contact sake.*

It would be helpful for our family to collect printed work a few times a week as we are getting low on ink and unsure if hp connect will be sending our refills as frequently as before covid 19

Online teaching is required to continue the right quality of education.

I think a video call type session would be great for us so ***** could interact with her teacher and friends for motivation when she doesn't have any sibling. Zoom seems easy to use from what I have experienced with work and village quizzes. Many thanks for your support.

No - You are doing a fantastic job and we are really enjoying the activities set by the teachers. They are flexible but offer a good range of different learning objectives, thank you!

This is a unique situation, so there is no expectation of learning as normal.

Themes for the week would be easier to plan for, rather than daily lessons, as this would allow more flexibility.

Providing suggested activities based on shorter 1:1 lessons would be useful - ie learning through talking about topics, rather than worksheets.

Thanks for all your support.

Just to note from a safeguarding point of view Zoom is not that safe. Microsoft Teams is more stable and a safer option. I am happy to discuss the safeguarding aspects of this if you wish.

You are all doing a fantastic job!

Some video lessons would be good if possible however I'm happy to go along with whatever the school sets, to the best of my ability, which can be a touch difficult with three little people. But we muddle by.

Keep safe.

I definitely think some kind of face to face interaction would be helpful.

Zoom is a very straight forward platform to use. I use it for work and we are able to host a significant number of concurrent users!

I think you are doing amazing in these difficult times.

Feel that it's important to flex activities to meet the child. Children feel different at different times of the day, and are under various levels of stress. I would support phone or video contact but not at specific times, such as a requirement to join a virtual lesson at a specific time as for some children that would be too much pressure. I feel though that say a video call one to one or small group with a teacher at a chosen time would be beneficial. Having tried video calls with around 6 children, my youngest child just finds it way too much, and wanted to end the call. I feel that schools and teachers are doing a great job and working very hard and it is very appreciated. I would prefer no additional video calls or phone calls if this would add too much stress into teaching staff workload. Thank you for all of your hard work supporting children.

I think that you're all doing a great job in the current situation. This is unknown territory and so it's never going to be a 100% for everyone.

I have found that some video messaging apps take a while to set up, particularly when the children's iPads are set up with communication restrictions (because they are children's iPads) and it can take a while to work out exactly which restriction is causing a problem with the messaging app. Both iPads are set up slightly differently so may create different problems so doing this on 2 devices can take a while. If video messaging is to be introduced by school please could only one platform be used to minimise time spent installing apps that may not work without further investigation. Thank you.

Short recorded lessons or just an odd recorded message from the teachers at the start of the week emailed would be nice. Can then be watched when convenient rather than having to dial in at a given time.

A video link would be good to allow the children to share with their teachers the work that they have done as both my girls definitely miss the connection with the teacher. We feel very supported from school at the moment the daily lesson plans are detailed and activities included. The video links are interesting for the children too some of the activities have led onto us developing more at home and that is how we are using the ideas because when our printer isn't working this is an issue for us. A big thank you to both the class one and class two teachers and my husband and I are completing as much of it as possible in these tricky times.

I think you have sent great resources but I think the children would benefit from seeing the teachers now and again - maybe a beginning and end of week call? Thanks

None at this time

***** has been doing really well working at home, but yesterday he had a wobble and he is missing seeing his friends. Just to have even one group session face to face over teams/skype etc would be great. In meantime i am going to try and organise a virtual pizza party.

We are very happy with the support we are receiving at the moment thank you. But I can see the advantages of a video call with a teacher to maintain the important bond.

No the work has been current and varied- a lot of printing and although we have lots of mobile devices only one desktop so all 3 of us are fighting over it!

I don't think video calls with teachers are necessary for every lesson - but contact with the class once a day or every two days via call would be appreciated and a one on one call once a week to stay in touch and be on hand to answer questions would be ideal?

If all children can't return to school together I would be very keen for ***** to join electronically when not there in person.

Thanks again for all the efforts in this challenging period.

I really appreciate the work given and the effort involved and the difficulty of setting work. However, more fun tasks if possible please! My children enjoy learning but it's hard to get enthused about repeated worksheets (I do appreciate though it's hard to set work under these circumstances). More of a choice of tasks would be great; when there is a choice, kids really enjoy being able to choose what they are interested in. More project based for class 3 so they could research and make a PowerPoint/ leaflet/ video/ model etc (eg previously class 3 have done something along the lines of a 'choose a country and choose 6 of the following 12 tasks to do or similar). This is a good opportunity for independent learning (assuming everyone has access to the internet).

I really like the current approach of one topic for 2 weeks, much prefer that to changing everyday. More open ended tasks would be good e.g. choose your favourite book/ a book you are reading (although I appreciate not every family has access to books). I would have liked a class reader to be sent home with the work but understand that's tricky now!

Finally, I would like a brief overview of what the next 2 weeks will involve, are they working towards anything (e.g. are they doing a PowerPoint/ leaflet at the end of this?) And which topic's coming next so can order any books to help (e.g. books on the Romans).

I do think the staff are handling this really well though and both class teachers are helpful, responsive, supportive and caring. Thank you so much!

I feel extremely pressured by the amount of work being sent. I appreciate the teachers are doing their best but I'm afraid my best doesn't match theirs.

More regular phone calls from the teachers, at least once a week. Zoom lessons, why is it other primary schools in Harrogate are having zoom lessons and we haven't been offered this. At the very least more contact with Teachers & Pupils.

It doesn't need to be for long or even every day but occasional Zoom catch-ups/lessons or assemblies would be great to allow the children to keep in touch with their teachers and classmates.

If they didn't have classes through a video call I think a weekly show and share with the teachers and class where they share a piece of work they are proud of or just have contact of some form with everyone would be really positive for the kids. I wouldn't personally want the kids to be on video calls for long periods everyday as we do a lot of learning outside and need to work around their baby sisters sleep time routine as well.

No further suggestions. We really appreciate everything you are doing in these difficult circumstances.

Maybe a 5 min video call from the teacher, so that the children can show what they have done? My child is usually very motivated but even she is losing her motivation to complete all tasks.

A short 30 min zoom class twice a week, maths and English would be good and an opportunity for social interaction with teachers and peers. However as working parents it could potentially be challenging to commit to these live sessions.

Alternatively, video footage of just the teacher delivering a 30min session in maths or English would be really useful and something that children could access any time of the day.

It would be helpful if the number of attachments for homework could be minimised and merged together as a one document.

Group/school/class assemblies- heard some schools are doing it and think good for the kids. Some form of face interaction with teacher once a week for ***** to show work that she has done. Are we able to WhatsApp things to teachers vs having to email each day as email quite time consuming and platform can be sporadic on performance.

Maybe a zoom (or similar) call from the teachers just to check in with the children and see how they are doing at home. Or perhaps a group one so the children could see their classmates. I realise how time consuming that would be for everyone and I really appreciate all the work everyone at school are already putting in to make this situation as easy as possible for our children.

I have already submitted one set of comments but have a few extra points, hope that's okay!

My feeling is that it doesn't work for school to try and set the work the children should be doing in class. I understand that they still have to cover Romans/ Mayans etc but feel a more flexible approach needs to be taken. Perhaps more horrible histories/ other videos (after searching I found funny videos for both topics) and less long worksheets/ online sites to read. Perhaps more fun tasks e.g. write a suggested menu rather than make notes on food.

Also, please could teachers understand it's difficult to get kids to sit down and focus at home, there are lots of distractions with other siblings etc So, it would really help if the kids could choose something they are interested in/ excited about from a list. I feel like school are really missing an opportunity here to set engaging work. There is so much online that looks great: a time capsule to open in 10 years about your life now, an interview with grandparents/ relatives about their childhood, make own board game on a topic, a poster on a hero of yours etc I feel like my children should do the school work first but by the time we finish, we don't have the time or energy to do the more exciting stuff! It would be great if teachers could come up with some interesting options for the children to choose from.

***** got a 40 min Maths test to do one Friday, that's definitely the kind of thing that's better done at school.

Finally, please don't set any SPAG work, I imagine it's hard teaching semi-colons in school, it's impossible at home! It's best left to teachers at school. It really turns the kids off and home learning becomes a battle which is bad for everyone's mental health.

I think lots of parents would be happy to buy a novel for the teacher to set work on. A project on a book would be ideal for this time.

Personally, I find the work too much and the daily e-mails do feel like pressure but I have read the rationale and I'm sure some parents feel it's the right amount.

I like the headteacher e-mails and the suggestions and have shown my children the children's ones. Would like to do more of the ideas but spend so long doing school work, there's no time!

I really do appreciate that this is incredibly difficult for the staff to set work for such a variety of abilities and circumstances and know the staff are working very hard. This is intended to be constructive feedback, not criticism. The staff are unfailingly supportive and approachable which I am grateful for. We all miss school a lot!

You are doing an amazing job

I think within the newsletter maybe have a star of the week section a bit like sharing assembly where teachers have asked all children to email back a piece of work that is marked be it Maths / English or topic. One a week even if in photo format sent back in by parent would maybe incentivise children to perform consistently and not give teachers too much extra work ? I also think a children's newsletter with competitions on each week or bake off / photography challenge / maths challenge / spellings challenge / art challenge / sculpture or science challenge where they submit an entry would be good. Again doesn't have to be weekly .

Government relax rules and allow children to come back to school . Even if it is one year at a time day by day.

I feel that if reassurance continues to be given, that school is contactable in some form, then that is what matters most. Personally, we have felt well supported by the school, via the current emails and letters being sent out.

Group lesson (with children muted) would be fantastic. Online access to the documented shared, so we can download them rather than managing emails (this is low priority).

Google classroom

Regular face to face with teachers via zoom or similar once per week

Online video content from the teachers would be great. A few times, the kids are getting work and saying they 'haven't learnt' about the subject. I'm sure this isn't the case so it would be good for the teachers to give a bit of background around the subject.