

# Expectations for Seesaw



Seesaw is a versatile application that allows the sharing of videos, pictures and other items in a blog-like format. At Castle Hill, we use this brilliant digital platform to share work completed at home with our teachers and classmates. We originally explored the use of this app with parents' feedback on our PAWS homework in mind and have used it very successfully ever since. Our PAWS homework is developing all the time and Seesaw has empowered children and families to share their progress towards tasks set easily and quickly. All posts are monitored by staff and outstanding examples are shared in class sessions, assemblies, at special events and in our Packtype Books. We have advanced the use of the app still further with EYFS now using it as a vital part of recording their learning process.

## EYFS

In Reception, Seesaw is used to record photos, videos and comments of children's development and to document their characteristics of learning. It is a fabulous tool, which also allows children to share their journey at home with their teachers and peers. We know that children make such huge developments in their home environment and it is a valuable way of adding these magical moments to their learning journey. EYFS staff will send explanations of how to logon and share posts early in the year. Because of the personal nature of the posts, children in Reception have individual logons and are only able to view each other's posts with a teacher in sharing sessions at school. Reception staff approve and comment on all posts created at home to encourage children and families and build confidence.

## PAWS

From Year 1 onwards, Seesaw is used differently. With children now engaged in the PAWS homework program, this becomes the main use of the Seesaw app. Each term, children are given a PAWS folder containing a choice of three tasks for each of the eight Packtype dogs. The expectation is that children will

complete one activity from each dog by the deadline. Seesaw can be used to share evidence of these tasks with teachers and classmates. We want children to be inspired by each other and learn e-safety and digital media skills in a monitored environment so we use class logons rather than individual logons. This means students can see and comment on each other's work. There is no requirement for Seesaw to be used, evidence can alternatively be provided in the folder, work can also be presented without the child visible. The site is only accessible to those with the code and all posts must be approved by a teacher before others can see them.

### Parents

We are, as always, incredibly grateful for your support with your child/children's learning journey. We aim to set activities that can be completed together in families but allow children to show their depth of understanding at varying levels. Please work with your children to use the Seesaw app (capture evidence, upload posts, check in for teacher comments and respond to feedback.) Work does not need to be duplicated on Seesaw if it is in the PAWS folder, staff will check both. You are asked, at the start of each year, for your permission to share photos. Please make sure these permissions are up to date with the office. Logon codes will be provided in the Autumn Term's PAWS folder. It is important that this is treated like a password that is not to be shared with others, If you require a new code please ask a member of staff and it can be reset.

### School Staff

Once children are using Seesaw for PAWS, (see EYFS section for Reception class expectations) Staff will check work, both on Seesaw and in the folder, once a week and approve each piece. You know a member of staff has seen work when it has been approved and liked (online) or ticked (in the folder). If posts are not appropriate, staff will not approve them. In order to teach digital media skills, staff will not comment on every piece of work, but only when work needs adjusting or it has gone above and beyond expectation. At the end of each term, children will receive a written feedback letter from their teacher. A child's Seesaw profile will go with them throughout school and they will be able to

look back on previous work through the years. After Year 6, classes will be archived.

### In class

Staff will share examples of work in weekly PAWS sessions. Modelling good digital citizenship and e-safety practice. Work may also be shared internally with other year groups but will not be shared externally without the permission of the parent. Seesaw may also be used within the classroom to record learning and practical activities. These accounts will be separate to those from PAWS and only used internally.

Thank you for your continued engagement with your child's learning at home.