



ClassDojo



Class Dojo is an established app that encourages positive behaviour choices and also allows parents and school to staff to communicate easily. Teachers can share messages to their class group of parents, and parents will be able to share photographs as part of a homework task, ask questions and see what the children have been up to in their class. This has replaced the class email system.

Benefits of the app:

- We will use the app to reward children's positive choices and you will be able to see their points at home! We can also share when behaviour choices need to improve so that you can talk to your child to help reflect on what to do differently next time.
- Your child will have their own Dojo character and they can edit and change it to make it personal to them. They can see how many points they have earned and they will be rewarded for hitting certain milestones with certificates and badges.
- You can message the class teacher to ask questions, share home successes for your child and share photographs for homework purposes, etc.
- Your teacher can post reminders to their class parents about PE days, visits, homework, changes to the timetable, etc, or if a class is due to arrive back late from a trip.
- You can message Mrs Boyd, Attendance Officer, regarding any absences from school.

I am sure you will agree that this new method of communication will be beneficial for us to work together as a team and share your child's educational journey. All you need to do is download the app! *Please note that Class Dojo does offer a paid subscription for parents to use at home, which will pop up when you first sign in. Close this option by pressing 'Skip' as this is not a requirement for the service we are using and there is no expectation for you to sign up to a subscription.* Your child will bring home a letter with a QR code that is specific to them and you can then join your child's class.

Questions:

What if I have more than one child?

Each child will have a class, so you will be able to join for every child you have and switch between their pages. If a class teacher sends a message, it will be sent to the class feed and you will have access to all class feeds on your home page.

What if I don't hear back from a sent message?

Class teachers will check their messages when they can and will aim to get back to you as soon as possible, within working hours. Please be patient as they are teaching for the majority of the day and often have meetings after school!

What if my child receives a 'needs work' notification?

Please don't worry, the app is designed to encourage positive choices and our behaviour policy reflects this. If a child receives a 'needs work' notification, they will have already received three warnings and opportunities to make the right choice first. You can work together to unpick what happened and move forward. This falls in line with our behaviour policy; your child will not lose any points on Dojo. Teachers will be happy to answer any questions that you have.

Can I send messages to complain about things that I am not happy with?

You are able to ask questions and raise concerns, but as always, please follow our procedure and speak to the class teacher or key stage leader about any complaints so these can be addressed. If you have a complaint of a serious nature, these should be sent via email to the headteacher - headteacher@smawthorneprimary.org

Do I still need School Jotter as an app?

Yes! Please keep this app as this is our more formal method of communication and has all of our letters, diary dates and our calendar on the site.

My child is in Reception, Nursery or Pre-school and uses Tapestry. Do I need Class Dojo also?

Yes. Class Dojo will be used for whole class communications and general updates, whereas Tapestry will continue to be used as this is more specific to the Early Years curriculum and for photos and updates for individual children.

Will there still be updates on the Facebook/X page?

Yes, we will still use our Facebook page, but some class photographs will now go on Class Dojo instead.

What if I don't want my child's photograph on the class story?

You will have the option of giving consent for Class Dojo on your child's entry to school. This is a closed community and will not be seen by the public, outside of the class group. If you change your mind at any time, please ask for a new form and your preference will be updated.

Can I screenshot photographs of my child and put them on my own social media?

You can, but we ask that only photographs of your own child are put on your social media. Remember that you will not have permission for other parents' children.

If you have any problems in accessing the app or finding your child's class, please speak to the class teacher and they will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to our Dojo journey with you!