## Answering a query as the prime minister

How can we ensure that children stay connected with friends from school?

Thank you, Marium for your interesting question! Just to clarify, you asked us how we ensure children stay connected with their friends at school. This a a great question because, as we understand, sharing games, laughs and jokes with other kids is a very important part of childhood and it is essential that we keep it going even through lockdown. This is a hard time for us all, and it is impossible that children are able to play as they did before due to current circumstances, but thanks to technology, there are still ways children can communicate and have a fun time with each other. Firstly, video calls such as FaceTime and Zoom play a major part in this as it allows children to speak freely to each other as if they are face to face. We have also started to ease the lockdown so small groups may meet each other in their gardens or out in the park (as long as they stay socially distanced). Seeing friends is good for your mental health, as well as your well being, so it is incredibly important that children keep in touch with their friends as often as possible, whether that is through the internet or outside in the park.