



Remote Learning Policy

INTRODUCTION

Within recent years, new programs and practices have been developed to allow for 'blended learning' and 'remote learning' to take place. Whilst it is recognised that teaching and learning is most effective when pupils are in school, there are procedures in place to allow teachers to provide remote Learning when necessary.

This policy sets out the school's approach to remote Learning. It outlines the circumstances in which remote Learning will be provided for pupils and sets out the expectations for teachers, parents, and pupils during periods of remote Learning.

WHEN REMOTE LEARNING ACTIVITIES WILL BE PROVIDED

Remote learning will be made available for pupils in the following circumstances:

1. The absence of a pupil who meets any of the following criteria:
 - has been advised by a medical professional not to attend school.
 - has been advised by the Public Health Authority (PHA) to self- isolate after testing positive for COVID-19.
 - has been advised by the PHA to self-isolate whilst waiting for the result of a COVID-19 test.
 - has been advised by the PHA to self-isolate for any other reason.
2. Where a whole class has been advised not to attend school, for example when a 'cluster' has been identified.
3. Where the Department of Education has issued specific guidance for schools to teach pupils remotely, for example in the event of a prolonged school closure.

If a pupil does meet any of the above criteria we may ask for proof, such as a letter from a medical professional or a positive COVID-19 test result.

At the school's discretion, work may be provided for a pupil who is living in the same household as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or someone who is awaiting a test result.

For more information about pupil attendance, please refer to the 'attendance' policy.

ONLINE PLATFORMS

- The main platform used for remote Learning is the online program 'Seesaw'. This may be supplemented with other programs such as 'StudyLadder' and 'Just2Easy'.

- All parents should ensure they are able to access their child's Seesaw account and should contact the class teacher if having difficulties with this.

WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL BE PROVIDED?

During each day of remote Learning pupils will normally be provided with a piece of numeracy and a piece of literacy work. At times, other areas such as topic work, ICT or art activities may be provided.

DEVICES/PAPER COPIES

Whilst we and the Department of Education encourage the use of digital resources, parents may request paper packs to be provided for collection. If requested, teachers will aim to prepare paper packs on a weekly basis during longer periods of remote Learning.

Should a parent wish to receive a paper pack they should liaise with the class teacher who will advise when the pack will be available for collection. Please note that it may take a day or two for teachers to prepare these packs.

Packs should not be collected by anyone who has been advised by the PHA to self-isolate.

MARKING

Work can be submitted via Seesaw by pupils at any time. Teachers will endeavour to mark work on the same day that it has been submitted on Seesaw, particularly if work is sent during school hours. If work is sent after school hours, teachers will aim to have it marked by the following day.

Work completed in paper packs should be submitted for marking on Seesaw, for example by taking a photograph of it. These packs therefore do not need to be returned to school, unless otherwise requested by the teacher.

Please note that teachers may be teaching in class as well as remotely. As a result work or messages cannot be responded to immediately. If a parent has an urgent enquiry they should telephone the school office.

ENGAGEMENT IN REMOTE LEARNING

Remote Learning tools are in place to ensure that pupils do not miss out on too much learning when they are unable to be in school. It is therefore important that pupils engage with remote learning if they are feeling well enough to do so.

If a pupil is feeling too unwell to complete the work set a message should be sent to the class teacher or secretary to explain this.

Teachers may make contact with parents via Seesaw or telephone if a child is not engaging with remote learning. Such contact is part of our school safeguarding and pastoral care procedures.

ONLINE SAFETY

As pupils may be spending more time online during periods of remote learning, it is important that parents are mindful of their online safety. Please refer to the 'e-safety' policy for support and advice on this matter.

HELP AND SUPPORT

We want to do all that we can to support pupils and parents during any period where children are unable to be in school. Parents are encouraged to contact us if there is any way that we can help.

The Education Authority have also published information on Online Learning to help parents at <https://www.eani.org.uk/supporting-learning>

REMOTE LEARNING ROUTINES

Pupils benefit from structure and routine so a daily routine for remote learning should be established.

Work should be completed at a table in a quiet part of the house if possible.

REVIEW

This policy will be kept under constant review.