

BLENDED LEARNING POLICY

(Home Learning)



RATIONALE

All schools have a duty to provide safe remote education for state-funded, school-age children unable to attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19). This applies when:

- a class bubble or an individual needs to self-isolate
- local restrictions require pupils to remain at home (this may be some form of National or Local lockdown)

Our remote learning offer will also be applied if children are required to work at home for other reasons, for example:

- an unplanned school closure (health and safety concerns: hazardous weather conditions for example)
- recovery from surgery but well enough to engage in school work

School is committed to offering immediate remote education in a way that safeguards pupils from harm in a digital world.

REMOTE EDUCATION

Wrenthorpe Academy will ensure that all learners continue to access the planned curriculum through high-quality online lessons, resources and teaching videos linked to the curriculum expectations of our school.

Taking part in live lessons is encouraged and children should follow the same timetable at home as those children working in school. We do recognise that this can present problems for some families so all of our remote lessons are recorded to enable families to access the learning content at a time in the day which is more convenient.

DELIVERING REMOTE EDUCATION

- ✓ We will provide an up-to-date HOME LEARNING tab on our school website. In this tab you will find the following sections:
 - Information and letters (letters and video messages from the Headteacher)
 - Reception Home Learning offer
 - Y1 and Y2 Home Learning offer
 - Y3 and Y4 Home Learning offer
 - Y5 and Y6 Home Learning offer
 - Additional Resources
- ✓ In each phase section on the website we will provide the weekly timetable for each class which has exactly the same lesson content as for the children who are working in school. We will also provide useful links to additional online resources should children require any additional work to complete.
- ✓ We will ensure that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects, that match with our planned school curriculum.
- ✓ We will continue to teach our well balanced school curriculum to the children at home and at school so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally.
- ✓ Staff will provide a minimum of three live or pre-recorded lessons each day, focusing on English, Maths and the wider curriculum.
- ✓ School will strongly encourage all children working from home to undertake the recommended learning time of 3 hours a day for KS1 and 4 hours a day for KS2. (This time should **not** all be spent online, the work planned ensures children spend some of this time engaged in work tasks which do not require screen time).

- ✓ Staff will keep a register of pupils who have not attended each online session (or engaged with the learning at a different time). Contact will be made with these families to see how school can support the children to access their learning daily.
- ✓ Where a staff member has to isolate but the class bubble remains in school, the staff member in question will deliver lessons from home via Microsoft Teams, with a member of school staff in class to provide assistance to the children working in school.
- ✓ Where a staff member is isolating (and they are ill) live lessons may not be possible for a short period of time. We will resume live lessons as soon as possible. During this time children working at home will continue with the work in their pack and be supported through contact from school.

Where pupils are not engaging with home learning, school will make contact with these families and offer various solutions based on their own circumstances (e.g possible loan of school equipment).

TECHNICAL ASPECTS

At Wrenthorpe Academy, the platform that has been chosen to support remote teaching and learning is **Microsoft Teams**. School is committed to providing instructions and support for parents and pupils to feel confident to use our system safely and effectively at home.

Children in Y1 - Y6 will make use of Microsoft Teams for all Home Learning and children in Reception will make use of the Evidence Me App. Reception children will only use Microsoft Teams to access live interaction with their teachers and the other children who are working in school.

We will do our very best to support all pupils to access our online home learning offer by assisting families to access Microsoft Teams on:

- PC/laptop
- Tablet/iPad
- Compatible iPhone or android
- Gaming consoles: PS4, PS5, XBOX One, XBOX series S and XBOX series X

Where families have none of the above devices at home, school is able to set up a loan arrangement so that families can make use of school laptops or iPads.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT LEARNING

School will provide a **work pack** for every child working at home to last two weeks. In this pack is a copy of the planned timetable and a set of printed resources for pupils, which supports the lessons taking place online. Children will complete work directly on the sheets provided or (where appropriate) in their green Homework Book or in the Art sketch book, for example as provided by school.

The school will provide reading books for children who are at learning at home which will be changed every two weeks. School will also provide resources which support specific learning where needed.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

The best form of assessment and feedback takes place during a lesson. When your child is engaged in the live lessons on Microsoft Teams the teacher will be able to assess and provide feedback in a number of ways:

- Responding to individual questions
- Whole class and individual feedback within the lesson
- Using short quizzes
- Peer questions and support
- Class marking (in school and at home using Teams)

Remote feedback:

- The teacher will continue to mark and feedback to pupils who are working in school in the usual way. For children working at home: Year 1 - Year 6 will make use of the **Seesaw**

Class App to upload work for the teacher to acknowledge, mark and provide feedback. Children in Reception will use the **Evidence Me App** in the same way.

- Sharing work on Twitter is also encouraged so that the whole school community can praise and celebrate the work that has been completed.

WHAT IS THE SEESAW CLASS App (Y1-2) AND THE EVIDENCE ME App (Rec)?

- Both of these Apps provide a secure online learning journal (or online portfolio) that allows children to upload work completed at home, to share with their teacher.
- Your child will be able to add the things we work on (including photos, videos, worksheets, drawings and voice recordings).
- The App allows the teacher to provide praise; feedback and acknowledgement of completed work.

WHEN CAN PARENTS EXPECT FEEDBACK FROM THE TEACHER?

- At the end of each day teachers will assess and evaluate both the work completed in school and the work completed at home. Teachers will endeavour to provide feedback to children working at home as soon as possible. Every time a child posts work to the App the teacher receives a notification. The parent then receives a notification to indicate that the teacher has responded.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

For pupils with SEND, their teachers are best-placed to know how the pupil's needs can be most effectively met to ensure they continue to make progress even if they are not able to be in school due to self-isolating. The requirement for schools to use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision called for by the pupils' special educational needs remains in place. We will work collaboratively with families, putting in place reasonable adjustments as necessary, so that pupils with SEND can successfully access remote education alongside their peers.

Where a pupil has provision specified within their EHCP, it remains the duty of the local authority and any health bodies to secure or arrange the delivery of this in the setting that the plan names. However, there may be times when it becomes very difficult to do so, for example, if they are self-isolating. In this situation, decisions on how provision can be delivered should be informed by relevant considerations including, for example, the types of services that the pupil can access remotely, for example, online teaching and remote sessions with different types of therapists. These decisions will be considered on a case by case basis, avoiding a one size fits all approach. At Wrenthorpe, when a pupil with an EHCP cannot attend school we will set work for the pupil that matches their need for each day that they are absent and we will offer remote interventions where required to the family.

VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Children who have been identified as vulnerable either within the DfE categories or those deemed by the school to be vulnerable have been invited to take up a school place and are strongly encouraged to take it up. The focus is on the welfare of the child and ensuring that they are able to access appropriate education and support.

Where individuals who are self-isolating are within our definition of vulnerable, we have robust systems in place to keep in contact with them. When a vulnerable child is asked to self-isolate, we will notify their Social Worker (if they have one). School leaders will then agree with the Social Worker the best way to maintain contact and offer support to the vulnerable child or young person. We will check if a vulnerable child is able to access remote education. Where this is not possible we will support families and carers on an individual basis to ensure that the children are provided with the best educational experience.

J Coyle Headteacher (update January 2021)