



Langham Primary School

Providing Remote Education during the COVID-19 pandemic

Introduced	September 2020	Author/ Owner	<i>Pupil Related Committee</i>
Last Reviewed		Review Cycle	<i>One Year</i>

Introduction

This policy is intended to support the delivery of remote learning in the event of the school having to close to all or some children as part of the national response to the Coronavirus pandemic. It also applies to children who are well but have to isolate because a family member is unwell or has a suspected case of COVID-19.

This policy draws on our experiences of delivering remote learning opportunities during the national response to COVID-19 from March 2020. It has been produced with DfE guidance on providing remote learning in the event of an outbreak in mind.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#section-5-contingency-planning-for-outbreaks>

This policy aims to:

- Ensure consistency in the approach to remote learning for all pupils (Inc. SEND) who aren't in school
- Provide clear expectations for members of the school community with regards to delivery high quality interactive remote learning
- Ensure the curriculum continues to be delivered as effectively as possible and that children's learning is well supported by their teachers

When does this policy apply?

This policy applies for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic when partial school closures and individual self-isolation may prevent children from attending school. In particular, one of the following three circumstances may require remote learning to be provided.

- A child is absent because they or a member of their family has a suspected case of COVID-19 and are awaiting test results.
- The school or a class bubble is closed to pupils because of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in school
- A child is not permitted to attend school due to national restrictions on school attendance

Roles and responsibilities

Governing Body

The governing board is responsible for:

- Monitoring the school's approach to providing remote learning to ensure education remains as high quality as possible
- Ensuring that staff are certain that remote learning systems are appropriately secure, for both data protection and safeguarding reasons

Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for co-ordinating the remote learning approach across the school including daily monitoring of engagement. The headteacher is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning. The headteacher is responsible for the security of remote learning solutions, including data protection and safeguarding considerations.

Teachers

The amount of time teaching staff are expected to spend delivering remote learning depends on the circumstances. If a small number of children are in isolation and the majority of the class is still in school, there will be less time available to administer remote learning due to ongoing class teaching commitments in school. However, in all circumstances, the school will endeavour to ensure that children are not disadvantaged and have access to the full curriculum.

When providing remote learning, teachers are responsible for:

- Setting work:
 - Teachers will set work for the pupils in their classes
 - Work set will be at a suitable level for children to complete
 - The work set should follow the usual timetable for the class had they been in school wherever possible
- Providing feedback on work:
 - All children's work which is submitted remotely will be acknowledged. Writing and maths tasks will receive more detailed feedback including areas of development as appropriate for the age of the children.
 - Feedback in response to tasks may be given to the whole class or to groups of pupils. Feedback does not have to be provided individually.
- Keeping in touch with pupils who aren't in school and their parents:
 - If there is a concern around the level of engagement of a pupil/s parents should be contacted via phone to assess whether school intervention can assist engagement.
 - Any complaints or concerns shared by parents or pupils should be reported to the headteacher
 - Any safeguarding concerns should be referred immediately to the DSL (Andrew MacDonald/ Liz Deller/ Claire Arter)

Pupils and parents

Staff can expect pupils learning remotely to:

- Complete work to the deadline set by teachers
- Seek help if they need it, from teachers
- Alert teachers if they're not able to complete work

Staff can expect parents with children learning remotely to:

- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise can't complete work
- Seek help from the school if they need it
- Be respectful when making any concerns known to staff

Systems for delivering remote learning

Class Dojo

The main platform for delivering remote learning will be Class Dojo. This is a secure platform which facilitates file sharing, 'class story' pages, individual portfolios and direct communication with parents.

Video conferencing

Our school uses Windows 365 which includes a subscription to **Teams**. Any virtual teaching or tutoring sessions that are arranged will be delivered using Teams. This gives us the advantage that sessions will not be limited in time. However, some browsers do not support full Teams functionality. *This means that users need to download the Teams App to take full advantage of this resource.*

When schools were closed to most pupils in the spring and summer terms 2020, some online sessions were hosted using **Zoom**. The school does not have a subscription and so session times are limited. Zoom may be used if there is any difficulty in delivering sessions via Teams.

Education Subscriptions

The school has a number of paid subscriptions which can be used to support learning at home. These include:

- Times Tables Rock Stars
- Discovery education (Espresso and Espresso coding)
- Nessy

Free online resources

A number of free education resources are available to support learning at home. In particular:

- Oak Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>
- BBC bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Overcoming barriers

Level of engagement with remote learning will be monitored and the school will be proactive in making sure that families are supported in accessing appropriate learning materials and online lessons.

Limited access to technology. If pupils are not eligible for government funded assistance through the scheme designed to support disadvantaged children, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-laptops-and-tablets-for-children-who-cannot-attend-school-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19> the school will consider a short-term loan of a device to make sure children can access remote learning.

Children with additional needs/ SEN. Some children, in particular those who are supported by an EHCP may find it difficult to access the support they need from home. In these cases the SENCO will contact families in order to agree the best way to provide ongoing support. This will be in line with government guidance.

Safeguarding

Keeping pupils and teachers safe during remote education is essential. It is especially important for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are being asked to do, including:

- sites they will be asked to use
- school staff their child will interact with

Further DfE guidance for parents is available here: [support for parents and carers to keep children safe online](#). It is important that parents make the school aware of any concerns they may have about the online activity of their child, or any particular vulnerability they may have in this respect.

Staff are aware that children are vulnerable to being bullied or groomed for abuse or radicalisation online. Staff will be vigilant to any signs that that this may be occurring and report any concerns in the usual way.

If, as a result of future local lockdown arrangements, the school is subject to further closure, the arrangements in place during the summer term 2020 for monitoring and supporting pupils will be reinstated.