

ST MARY'S CE (A) FIRST SCHOOL REMOTE LEARNING POLICY

Philosophy

This policy is to ensure the ongoing education of pupils at St Mary's CE(A) First School under unusual circumstances. This policy will future-proof against closures that could happen at any time: due to school closure from illness epidemic, extreme weather, power-loss, etc. It also covers the ongoing education of pupils who cannot be in school but are able to continue with their education when the school is closed. At St Mary's CE(A) First School, we believe that every child is entitled to the best education possible and we will strive to ensure that we provide appropriate, yet challenging, learning opportunities for everyone. Our Christian distinctiveness values the love for learning, no matter what, and as a school we will strive to ensure our children continue with this love, supported by the strength of God.

Guidelines

- School will provide learning opportunities for children who need it at home.
- Work will be planned and delivered through Showbie and will take into account the teacher's knowledge of the children's ability.
- We will recognise that not every child will have access to technology and will endeavour to provide learning materials accordingly.
- We recognise that parents cannot be expected to become teachers, particularly when many will have their own work to undertake.
- Children who are off school for a few days, due to waiting for test results for a family member or because of extreme weather, will be expected to read their reading books, practise spellings and practise KIRFS in maths. Ideas for online learning games will be provided on Showbie and on the class website page.
- Children who cannot be in school due to an isolation period, will be provided with home learning activities on Showbie, which will match what their class are learning.
- Children who are ill will not be expected to complete home learning until they are feeling better.

Roles & Responsibilities

Teachers are responsible for:

- setting work for their class, ensuring there is a range of activities which include reading, writing, maths and the foundation subjects.
- ensuring the work is on Showbie for parents to access at home and children have the resources they need - writing books, Power maths, spelling booklets etc.
- ensuring that the work is differentiated accordingly and that no child is disadvantaged.
- keeping in touch with parents and children at the start of each week either on Showbie, email or by telephone. Staff will not always respond to messages out of school hours, however, they will endeavour to make contact as soon as they can.
- ensuring that children with an EHCP receive a tailored home learning package.

If a whole class needs to self isolate, the Teaching Assistant will support the Teacher in adapting work for children with additional needs and will help to keep in touch with families each week.

Senior Leaders are responsible for:

- co-ordinating the remote learning approach across school. Any queries about home learning can be sent via email or telephone to the school office or the Head Teacher.
- ensuring that all pupils, including those in receipt of Pupil Premium and those with Additional Needs, can access learning and that arrangements are in place to oversee and monitor equality of opportunity.
- monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning by ensuring that the work which is sent out to parents and children is appropriate and the links to online activities are current and suitable.
- leading remote learning if a Class Teacher is unwell and unable to lead the learning for their class.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for:

- ensuring that everybody follows the school's Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy, including the latest amendments, and any changes are communicated.

Pupils & Parents are expected to:

- seek help if they need it, by contacting school via Showbie, email or telephone.
- support their child with some home learning as best they can under their own circumstances.
- make the school aware if their child is ill and not coming to school.
- make the school aware if there are any changes to the welfare or circumstances of the child or family that school needs to be aware of.
- be respectful when making concerns or complaints to staff.

The Governing Body is responsible for:

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

Data Protection

- Teachers are able to access parent contact details in the school office using a secure password. They will not share with a third party.
- School computers, laptops and ipads are the school's preferred devices to be used when accessing any personal information on pupils.
- Devices will be password protected. Hard drives and USB devices will be encrypted, ensuring the information contained on them is inaccessible to anyone else. The devices will not be shared among family and friends and will be kept up to date with antivirus software and current updates.

Agreed - November 2023

Review date – November 2025