

St. Augustine's Junior C of E (VA) Junior School Remote Learning Policy



REMOTE LEARNING POLICY

Personnel and Curriculum Committee



Finance and Premises Committee

Full Governing Body

Christian Character Committee

Headteacher (Sam Brunt)	Signature <i>S Brunt</i> 05/01/21
Chairperson (Jean Asher)	Signature

Date ratified: Tuesday 13th Oct 2020

Amended: 5th January 2021 (to reflect nationwide lockdown)

Review date: Autumn term 2021 (or earlier if considered necessary)

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Our Vision: To be guided by God's wisdom, to embrace challenge and to strive to achieve our best, enjoying all that we do together.

1. Aims

This Remote Education Policy aims to:

- Outline the school's approach to educating pupils who will not be attending school, as a result of government guidance or the closure of a bubble
- Make clear our expectations of staff who are self-isolating but healthy and able to continue planning, teaching and assessing pupils' work
- Ensure that remote education is offered as soon as it becomes necessary
- Ensure consistency in the approach to remote learning for all pupils, including those with SEND, who aren't in school through use of quality online and offline resources
- Provide clear expectations for members of the school community with regards to delivering high quality interactive remote learning
- Include continuous delivery of the school's broad curriculum, as well as support of pupils' well-being
- Ensure that pupils learn new facts and concepts, as well as reinforcing prior learning
- Ensure that pupils engage in the learning they would have completed had they been in school as normal
- Ensure that online tools used enable appropriate interaction with pupils, the assessment of their work and the provision of feedback
- Provide training for staff about the appropriate use of online platforms so that pupils and staff are effectively safeguarded and that data protection guidelines are adhered to
- Support effective communication between the school and families so that parents and pupils can access and make the best use of resources
- Ensure that pupils who lack any necessary equipment have this sourced for them

2. Who is this policy applicable to?

- Children who are absent because they are awaiting test results and the household is required to self-isolate. The rest of their school bubble are attending school and being taught as normal. Individual pupils who are unable to attend will be supported on a case-by-case basis by providing them with work which will broadly mirror that being taught to the rest of the class who remain in school
- Children who are part of a whole bubble which is not permitted to attend school because a member of their bubble has tested positive for Covid-19.
- **Children not attending school due to nationwide lockdown**

3. Resources

Resources to deliver this Remote Education Plan include:

- Where possible, for individual children who are self-isolating but well or awaiting test results for themselves or a member of their household, the same learning that the rest of the class are accessing, will be provided. This will be delivered if required.

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In the case of a bubble closure, a paper learning pack will be sent home with every child. From the first day of closure the following resources will be also be used:

- Live lessons via Google Meet and learning activities via Google classroom □ Purple Mash
- TT Rock Stars
- AR Reading Book and access to quizzes
- Oak National Academy

4. Approaches to Learning: Our Principles

The following principles, informed by the DfE's requirements in respect of remote learning, underpin our approach:

- Planning will be informed by the feedback from previous remote learning
- Pupils will study a broad range of subjects
- Pupils will learn new facts and concepts, as well as completing activities that reinforce their prior learning.
- Those who cannot attend school will access similar learning to that which their bubble is completing within school
- Activities will be varied and not solely consist of 'screen time'; for example daily challenges will be put on google classroom which will include practical/ creative activities.
- Teachers will have access to a wide variety of resources to share remotely, such as TT Rockstars, Purple Mash.
- Staff will have the training they need to provide online learning safely, including E Safety policy guidance.
- All pupils will have access to the resources they need to learn. We will ensure this by sending home login details and uploading activities daily.
- Teachers will communicate the purpose of activities and their success criteria for pupils using Google Classroom.
- Pupils will access remote learning resources as part of in-school delivery, so that they become used to these ways of working. Weekly homework will be provided which require use of Google Classroom.
- SEND will not be a barrier to accessing the curriculum at home, because the school will work in partnership with families by providing differentiated learning for any child who requires it. For those children with EHCP, the SENDCo will liaise with parents to provide appropriate work. All legal amendments to EHCP plans will be made as a result of a child's absence due to COVID.
- COVID catch-up funding will be used effectively to tutor individual/individuals remotely.
- Staff workload will be managed by shared planning of resources and shared feedback with TAs.
- Leaders will measure engagement in remote learning by monitoring attendance of online lessons and use this information to review provision and make changes as necessary.

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5. Working with Parents

We are committed to working in close partnership with families, and providing remote learning in different ways when that is necessary to suit the needs of particular pupils, such as those who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

We will provide guidance to parents on how to use Google Classroom and Google Meet.

Resources will be shared with pupils and parents via Google Classroom.

We will encourage parents to support their children's work, and to establish a routine based around the school day wherever possible. A grid of weekly learning expectations will be shared with parents.

Should parents be unable to access online work for any reason, they should contact the School Office so that other arrangements can be made.

All children sign an 'Acceptable Use Policy' at school which includes e-safety rules. This applies when children are working on computers at home.

6. Roles and responsibilities

Remote Learning Coordinator: Mrs Brattan

Senior and subject leaders

Alongside any teaching responsibilities, senior/subject leaders are responsible for:

- Adapting schemes of learning so that teachers are aware of how the intended key components can be taught remotely
- Co-ordinating the remote learning approach across the school including monitoring pupils' engagement
- Lead virtual meetings to ensure consistency across the year/subject
- Monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning, including by monitoring attendance of online lessons and use this information to review provision and make changes as necessary.
- Ensuring that staff, pupils and parents benefit from appropriate guidance about remote learning
- Ensuring that resources fully support teachers and pupils so that remote learning can take place without hindrance in this respect
- Monitoring the security of remote learning systems, including data protection and safeguarding considerations

Teachers

Teachers will be provided with the necessary training on how to use Google Classroom and Google Meet.

When providing remote learning, teachers must be available between 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm Teachers unable to work for any reason during this time should notify a member of SLT.

When providing remote learning, teachers are responsible for:

- Setting work:
 - Teachers will set work for the pupils in their year group 'bubbles'

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- The work set should follow the usual timetable for the class had they been in school, wherever possible
- Teachers will set work using the Google Classroom.
- Teachers will teach at least one 'live' lesson daily.
- Daily English and mathematics work and one other subject will be provided.
- Planning and resources will be completed by year group teams and reviewed during Upper/ Lower School PPA time by curriculum leaders before they are made available to pupils and parents.
- Providing feedback on work:
 - Reading, writing and mathematics work: feedback will be provided by one of the 'bubble' adults via Google Classroom
 - Work in other subjects: general comments will be made on work uploaded. ○ Some work will be self-marked.
 - Teacher will provide feedback on all English and Maths work set.
- Keeping in touch with pupils who aren't in school and their parents: ○ Teachers are expected to make weekly contact, via emails or phone calls.
 - If there is a concern around the level of a pupil's engagement, the teacher should notify a member of SLT who will make contact with parents.
 - Teachers should only use their school email address to communicate with parents and pupils.
 - Teachers should check emails at least once in the morning and once in the afternoon and should respond to all parents within 24 hours. If the matter cannot be resolved within that period, the teacher will acknowledge the email and explain to the parent the reasons for the delay and the actions they are taking
 - Where a family displays difficult behaviour or is unable/unwilling to comply, teachers will contact a member of SLT.
 - Calls made using personal phones must have 141 inserted before the recipient's number so that their phone number is hidden from view
- Teachers will respond promptly to requests for support from families at home, by contacting a member of the school's safeguarding team. ○ Any immediate safeguarding concerns must be referred immediately to the DSL.
- Staff who are required to self-isolate are expected to: ○ Follow the normal reporting procedure for planned absence
 - Following contact with school, the school business manager may set up a referral to Occupational Health to support that individual ○ Obtain a test and share the result of it with school so that appropriate plans can be made ○ If unwell themselves, teachers will be covered by a senior leader. Planning and other activities will not be undertaken until the teacher is fit for work.

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Teaching Assistants

Teaching assistants must be available during their usual working hours.

If they are unable to work for any reason during this time, for example due to sickness or caring for a dependent, they should report this using the normal absence procedure.

During the school day, teaching assistants must complete tasks as directed by a member of the SLT. The following tasks/roles are examples and do not constitute an exhaustive list:

- Assisting the class teacher with supporting pupils remotely
- Preparing home learning resources
- Undertake remote and/or online CPD training
- Attend virtual meetings with colleagues
- Communicate with parents

Designated Safeguarding Lead

The DSL is responsible for managing and dealing with all safeguarding concerns. For further information, please see the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

The SENDCO

The SENDCO will ensure that the technology used for remote learning is accessible to all pupils and that reasonable adjustments are made where required.

- Ensure that pupils with EHC plans continue to have their needs met while learning remotely, and liaising with the headteacher and other organisations to make any alternate arrangements for pupils with EHC plans and IHPs
- Identify the level of support required by pupils and liaise with the class teacher to put appropriate support in place.

The School Business Manager

- The SBM will ensure value for money when arranging the procurement of equipment or technology and ensure that the school has adequate insurance to cover all remote working arrangements.

IT Technicians

IT technicians are responsible for:

- Fixing issues with systems used to set and collect work
- Helping staff with any technical issues they are experiencing
- Reviewing the security of remote learning systems and flagging any data protection breaches to the data protection officer

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Pupils and parents

Staff can expect pupils learning remotely to:

- Be contactable during the school day
 - Complete work to the deadline set by teachers
 - Seek help if they need it, from teachers or teaching assistants
- Alert teachers if they're not able to complete work

Staff can expect parents with children learning remotely to:

- Wherever possible, maintain a regular and familiar routine.
- Support their children in their reading as far as they are able, so that they continue to read their home reading book or access online reading resources via Google Classroom.
- Support their children's work as far as they are able, by discussing the work together and making appropriate plans for its completion. This can include providing a suitable place to work and encouraging their children to focus
- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise cannot complete work, or if the online platform does not work on their devices, whereupon alternative resources will be offered
- Seek help from the school if they need it, communicating with class teachers by email or phone, or by contacting the school office.
- Be respectful when making any complaints or concerns known to staff

Governing Body

The governing body 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

7. Personal Data

Staff members may need to collect and/or share personal data, such as information on pupils' attainment or their contact details. This is necessary in furtherance of the school's official functions and therefore individuals will not need to provide authorisation for this to happen. However, staff are reminded to collect and/or share as little personal data as possible online, and should speak to their line manager if they are unsure. Teachers and teaching assistants should not store pupils' personal data on their own electronic devices.

8. Keeping Devices Secure

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes but is not limited to:

- Using strong password protection, with passwords that are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers and special characters

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- Ensuring the hard drive is encrypted, so that if the device is lost or stolen the files on the hard drive cannot be accessed by attaching it to a new device
- Making sure the device locks automatically if left inactive for a period of time
- Not allowing family or friends to use the device
- Storing the device securely to avoid theft
- Ensuring that anti-virus and anti-spyware software is up to date

9. Safeguarding

Staff should ensure that all safeguarding concerns are reported immediately to a safeguarding officer. If you are unable to contact someone and it is an urgent matter, speak to a member of the senior leadership team. All safeguarding policies and procedures continue to apply. Please follow the guidance that you were given during the annual update training in Sept 2020.

Staff must ensure all communication with parents and pupils is conducted through the school email following normal guidance and ensure this remains professional.

10. Expectations of staff during online meetings

When attending virtual meetings all staff should follow expected professional standards in relation to:

- Dress code
- Location, e.g. avoid noisy areas, nothing inappropriate in the background
- Ensure that more than one adult is present for every 'live' lesson

11. Links with other policies and development plans

This policy is linked to our:

- Safeguarding and Child protection policy
- Behaviour policy
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- E Safety acceptable use policy
- Code of Conduct for Phone calls, Video conferencing and recorded video