

Remote Learning Policy

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1. Statement of School Philosophy

Brentfield Primary School has always strived to be creative, innovative and support our parents/children in the best way possible to make learning purposeful and holistic. Our strategy for remote learning continues this.

2. Aims

This Remote Learning Policy aims to:

- Ensure consistency in the approach to remote learning for all pupils (Inc. SEND) who are not in school through use of quality online and offline resources and teaching videos.
- Provide clear expectations to members of our school community concerning delivering high quality interactive remote learning.
- Include continuous delivery of the school curriculum, as well as to support of motivation, health and well-being and parent support.
- Consider continued education for staff and parents (e.g. CPD, supervision and meet the teacher etc.)
- Support effective communication between the school and families and support online attendance.

3. When is this policy applicable?

This document provides non-statutory guidance on the provision of high-quality remote education when it is not possible, or is contrary to government guidance, for some or all pupils to attend school. Remote education will only ever be considered as a last resort where a decision has already been made that attendance at school is not possible, but pupils are able to continue learning. This policy will be implemented when there are school closures or restrictions on attendance, where school access for pupils is restricted and in individual cases where a pupil is unable to attend school but is able to learn.

Providing remote education does not change the imperative to remain open or to reopen as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to ensure pupils can be taught in person by attending school or if appropriate and possible, attending a safe alternative site.

After exploring all options to ensure the school remains open to all pupils, there may still be some exceptional occasions when the headteacher or the local authority decide that it is not possible to open safely, or where opening would contradict guidance from local or central government. If restricting attendance for pupils is the only viable option, remote education may be provided, where possible, to help pupils stay on track with the education they would normally receive. In this instance, the remote education plan will be implemented.

There may be some individual cases where a pupil is unable to attend school but is able to learn. This will only be due to limited circumstances where a pupil is unable to attend school but is able and well enough to continue their education remotely. These circumstances will only involve a short-term absence and might include: pupils recovering from short-term infectious illnesses, pupils preparing for or recovering from some operations, or pupils recovering from injuries where attendance might inhibit recovery.

In some exceptional cases, these circumstances might also include pupils whose attendance has been affected by a special educational need or disability (SEND) or a mental health issue. In these circumstances, and after the pupil's absence from school has been established, provision for remote education may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Provision of remote education may be made as a short-term solution allowing absent pupils to keep on track with their education and stay connected to their teachers and peers.

4. Considerations when providing remote education for individual pupils

When a pupil is absent, the school will seek to overcome the barriers to attendance and provide support for the pupil to attend, regularly reviewing any barriers in conjunction with the pupil, parents or carers, and if appropriate, relevant medical professionals.

Remote education should not be viewed as an equal alternative to attendance in school, and providing remote education during a pupil's absence does not reduce the importance of bringing that absence to an end as soon as possible.

In the limited circumstances when the school decides to use remote education for individual pupils when they are absent, the following will be considered:

- Ensuring mutual agreement of remote education by the school, parents or carers, potentially pupils, and if appropriate a relevant medical professional is in place. If the pupil has an Education, Health and Care plan or has a social worker, the local authority should also be involved in the decision.
- Where remote education is being used as part of a plan to reintegrate back to school, a formal arrangement may be put into place to review its efficacy regularly, alongside identifying what other support and flexibilities can be put in place to help ease the pupil back to school at the earliest opportunity.
- Setting a time limit within which the period of remote education provision should be reviewed, with the aim that the pupil returns to in person education with the required support in place to meet their needs.

5. Free school meals and remote education

Where pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals are receiving remote education, the school will work with the catering team either to provide good quality lunch parcels or to issue a food voucher if available. This will ensure that eligible pupils continue to be supported for the period they are unable to attend school.

6. Remote education during a suspension or permanent exclusion

As outlined in the Suspension and Permanent Exclusion guidance, headteachers should take steps to ensure that work is set and marked for pupils during the first five school days of a suspension or permanent exclusion.

After a period of off-site direction or suspension, a pupil is expected to attend full-time. The school's legal duties to pupils with SEND remain in force.

7. Content and Tools to Deliver this Remote Education Plan

Resources to deliver this Remote Education Plan include:

- Online tools for KS1 and KS2 will be posted on to each child's Microsoft Teams.
- The use of a weekly home learning sheet with linked online resources and videos for children in EYFS.
- Phone calls home will be in place to ensure on-going contact with pupil and their families when remote the remote learning plan is being implemented.
- Printed learning packs will be used where necessary (where a pupil is unable to effectively access online materials and lessons). This may include the following provision:
 Workbooks
 - -Story/reading books
 - -Exercise books

-Writing materials

• Use of online resources such as: BBC Bitesize, Brentfield Primary School Website, The Oak National Academy, TT Rockstars, Numbots, Busy Things, Letter Join and LGFL.

The remote learning planning and resources to deliver this policy can be found here: Curriculum resources

> https://brentfield.brent.sch.uk/ https://www.thenational.academy/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ https://ttrockstars.com/ https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/log-in.html https://whiterosemaths.com/ https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/default.aspx https://www.busythings.co.uk/

This list is not exhaustive and other resources that may be appropriate may be used.

8. Home and School Partnership

Brentfield Primary School is committed to working in close partnership with families and recognises each family is unique. Because of this, remote learning may look different for different families in order to suit their individual needs.

Brentfield Primary School will provide a refresher online training session and induction for parents on how to use Microsoft Teams.

Where possible, it is beneficial for children to maintain a regular and familiar routine. Brentfield Primary School would recommend that each 'school day' maintains structure.

We would encourage parents to support their children's work, including finding an appropriate place to work and, to the best of their ability, support pupils with work and encourage them to work with good levels of concentration.

Every effort will be made by staff to ensure that work is set promptly. Should accessing work be an issue, parents should contact school promptly, via telephone or the class emails and alternative solutions may be available. These will be discussed on case-by-case basis.

In line with Brentfield School's 'Online Safety Agreement', we would encourage parents to follow the 'digital 5 a day' framework, which provides practical steps to support a healthy and balanced digital diet. <u>https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/</u>

All children sign our 'Online Safety Agreement' at school, which includes e-safety, rules which also applies when children are working on computers at home.

9. Roles and responsibilities

Teachers

Brentfield Primary School will provide a refresher training session and induction for new staff on how to use Microsoft Teams and other online resources.

When providing remote learning whilst working from home, teachers must be available between the usual school 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.

As per DfE guidance, teachers should:

• Provide remote education that is equivalent in length to the core teaching time pupils would receive in school where possible, being mindful of the individual needs and circumstances of the pupil and their families. These include, but are not limited to:

- Consideration of age, stage of development, and independent study skills.

- Any SEND or other additional needs the pupils might have.
- The pupils' home environment, which includes having a suitable place and opportunity to study.

- Screen time, making reasonable allowances for adequate breaks for pupils and staff during digital remote education.

-Any significant demands on parents' or carers' help or support.

Setting work:

- Reading, writing, spelling and maths will be set daily with at least one other subject set on a daily basis.
- Teachers throughout the school will be setting work and posting links via *Microsoft Teams*
- During any period of whole school closure, work will also be added to Brentfield's website with a weekly overview and web links to relevant resources to support learning at home will be added, including BBC Bitesize and Oak National Academy.

Providing feedback on work:

- Completed reading, writing and maths work submitted will receive responses and comments by their class teacher within 2 days of being submitted.
- Other subject areas will be checked and feedback given weekly.
- Teachers will comment on all curriculum tasks submitted by the end of each week.

Assessing Outcomes of Learning

All schoolwork set through remote learning must be:

- Complete when returned to the relevant member of teaching staff.
- Completed to the best of the pupil's ability.
- The pupil's own work.
- Feedback will be given to the child, through Microsoft Teams or via email where the child is unable to access Teams. This should give them steps to take to improve their work, in line with the school's feedback and marking policy.
- Quizzes via Teams can be used to assess what children have learnt during a unit of work.
- On the child's return to school, teachers will assess children's understanding of work carried out remotely, using on-going formative assessment, in line with the school assessment guidelines.

Maintaining High Expectations during any Period of Remote Learning.

- The school expects pupils and staff to maintain a good work ethic and a high quality of work during the period of remote learning.
- Teachers will contact parents if their child is not completing their schoolwork or their standard of work has noticeably decreased.
- Teachers will monitor the academic progress of pupils with and without access to the online learning resources and discuss additional support or provision with the headteacher as soon as possible, where appropriate. This may include the loan of hardware where possible, dependent on resources available.

Keeping in touch with pupils who are not in school and their parents:

- If there is a concern around the level of engagement of a pupil parents will be contacted via phone to access whether school intervention can assist engagement.
- All parent/carer emails should come through the school admin account (admin@brentfield.brent.sch.uk)
- Any complaints or concerns shared by parents or pupils should be reported to a member of SLT- for any safeguarding concerns, refer immediately to the DSL

Teaching Assistants

Teaching assistants must be available during usual school working hours during any period of closure or working from home.

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 or their line manager.

These will include:

- Supporting pupils who are not in school with remote learning.
- Attending meetings with teachers, parents or pupils remotely.
- Maintaining contact with parents and pupils via telephone calls and the class email address.
- Creating resources to support learning.

Subject Team Leaders

Alongside their teaching responsibilities, subject team leads are responsible for:

- Considering whether any aspects of the subject curriculum need to change to accommodate remote learning
- Working with teachers teaching their subject remotely to make sure all work set is appropriate and consistent
- Working with other subject team leads and senior leaders to make sure work set remotely across all subjects is appropriate and consistent, and deadlines are being set an appropriate distance away from each other
- Monitoring the remote work set by teachers in their subject explain how they'll do this, such as through regular meetings with teachers or by reviewing work set
- Alerting teachers to resources they can use to teach their subject remotely

Senior Leaders

Alongside any teaching responsibilities, senior leaders are responsible for:

- Co-ordinating the remote learning approach across the school including the monitoring of pupil engagement.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning through regular discussions.
- Work posted online will also be reviewed and feedback sought from both pupils and parents.
- Monitoring the security of remote learning systems, including data protection and safeguarding considerations.

Designated safeguarding lead

The DSL is responsible for managing and dealing with all safeguarding concerns.

IT Technicians

IT technicians are responsible for:

- Fixing issues with systems used to set and collect work
- Helping staff with any technical issues they're experiencing
- Reviewing the security of remote learning systems and flagging any data protection breaches to the data protection officer
- Assisting pupils and parents with accessing the internet and/or devices
- Procuring resources to support learning.

The SENCO

- Liaising with the ICT technicians to ensure that the technology used for remote learning is accessible to all pupils and that reasonable adjustments are made where required.
- Ensuring 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.

The SENCO will work with staff to ensure that DfE Guidance is being met:

- Use a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources and teaching videos and that is linked to the school's curriculum expectations.
- Select online tools that will be consistently used across the school in order to allow interaction, assessment and feedback and make sure staff are trained in their use.
- Provide printed resources, such as text books and workbooks, for pupils who do not have suitable on-line access
- Recognise that younger pupils and pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support and so schools should work with families to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum

The Finance Officer

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

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 cannot complete work.

- Seek help from the school if they need it.
- Be respectful when making any complaints or concerns known to staff.

Governing Board

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

Who to contact

If staff have any questions or concerns about remote learning, they should contact the following individuals:

Issues in setting work - talk to the relevant subject team lead or SENCO

Issues with behaviour - talk to the relevant lead teacher

Issues with IT - talk to IT staff

Issues with their own workload or wellbeing - talk to their line manager

Concerns about data protection - talk to the data protection officer

Concerns about safeguarding - talk to the DSL

If parents/carers have any questions or concerns about remote learning, they should contact the class teacher through our remote learning platform Google Classroom or through the class email address.

7. Data protection

Accessing personal data

When accessing personal data for remote learning purposes, all staff members will keep to the protocols and school approved systems for accessing, processing and sharing data.

Staff are able to access parent contact details via the school office and through using the school's VPN and school allocated devices. Staff should log out after use, and not allow access to the site to any third party.

School laptops and iPads must be used when accessing any personal information on pupils.

Processing personal data

Staff members may need to collect and/or share personal data such as such as: names, contact details, email addresses of parents and pupils, assessment data, special educational needs as part of the remote learning system. As long as this processing is necessary for the school's official functions, individuals won't need to give permission for this to happen. However, this should be supported by a Data Protection Impact Assessment and authorised by the data protection lead in school.

Staff are reminded to collect and/or share as little personal data as possible online. When sharing data externally, staff should not share data with third parties who have not been approved by the school and ensure they have been identified as necessary for the school's official functions.

Keeping devices safe and acting securely online

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure and they behave appropriately when interacting on school systems online. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Ensuring the hard drive is encrypted this means if the device is lost or stolen, no one can access the files stored on the hard drive by attaching it to a new device
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Installing antivirus and anti-spyware software
- Keeping operating systems up to date always install the latest updates
- Refrain from storing any data outside of the approved system or device e.g. noting personal data down on paper or storing on the hard drive of a personal device.
- Notifying the school Data Protection Lead immediately when a data breach is suspected.

During remote learning sessions, staff are expected to:

- Refrain from taking secret recordings or screenshots of themselves or pupils during live lessons.
- Only conduct video lessons in a professional environment. This means staff will be correctly dressed and not in a bedroom. The camera view will not include any personal information or inappropriate objects and where possible blur or change the background.
- Refrain from contact or attempted contact of pupils or to access their contact details (including their usernames/handles on different platforms) in any way other than school-approved and school-monitored ways. Staff are expected to report any breach of this by others or attempts by pupils to do the same to the Headteacher.
- Keep a log for live lessons if anything inappropriate happens or anything which could be construed in this way
- Support a whole-school safeguarding approach and will report any behaviour which they believe may be inappropriate or concerning in any way to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (if by a child) or Headteacher (if by an adult).
- Refrain from behaving any differently towards students compared to when they are in school and not attempting to arrange any meeting without the full prior knowledge and approval of the school

8. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed at least yearly by the Teaching and learning lead. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

9. Links with other policies and development plans

This policy is linked to our:

Safeguarding and Child protection policy

Behaviour policy

Inclusion policy

Data protection policy and privacy notices

Online safety agreements

Code of Conduct

User Agreements for Google classroom (which each child agreed to on joining Google classroom) Home learning Protocols.





