

# **BISHOP BEWICK**

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

Fenham Hall Drive, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9YH  
Tel: (0191) 274 7373 | [www.bishopbewickcet.org](http://www.bishopbewickcet.org)  
**Chief Executive Officer: Mrs A Bath**

### **Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust's approach to Remote Learning – provision in Secondary Schools**

*Our community of schools is committed to providing the very best learning opportunities for all our students and as a family of schools we work very closely to share the best practice being developed both nationally and within the Trust.*

Remote learning has rapidly become a key part of the offer needed to support our children through these very difficult times. Schools have had to rapidly adjust to new forms of teaching and schools across our Trust are working together to trial effective ways of working for students who are unable to attend school due to Covid-19.

The term remote learning is now being used widely to describe this form of education, but what does it actually mean and how can we make it as effective as possible? In this information leaflet, we will set out what is meant by remote learning and how as a Trust we will ensure that all our schools provide high quality materials for students who are unable to attend school due to Covid-19.

#### **Why is remote learning still needed?**

During Lockdown earlier in the year, the majority of students were learning at home. Although this is no longer the case, some students are having to remain at home for a period of self-isolation. For some students, this may happen on more than one occasion. Ultimately, we want these students to be able to return to school able to pick up their learning alongside their peers, and not to have fallen behind. Therefore, our Bishop Bewick schools have been working very hard since March to ensure that quality materials are in place to enable students to keep up with learning, even during times of lockdown or self-isolation.

#### **When should remote learning be in place for students?**

Provision should start from the first full school day a child has to remain at home. Schools will have already explained to their students how to access materials, so that whilst at home, they are able to follow the curriculum for their subjects. This information will also be available for parents, usually on the school website. Parents can contact schools directly if they need help accessing on-line resources for their children.

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### **What format can remote learning take? Does it include printed booklets, worksheets or is it only on-line?**

Remote learning can take many forms and schools will continue to use a variety of different methods of learning including printed resources or textbooks. Where students need further support with these resources or to check they are keeping on track, schools will have systems in place to enable this to happen.

Sadly, not all students have access to on-line facilities or sufficient laptops within a family for everyone to use. Government has provided some support for families and schools will provide school-owned equipment when they can, but the situation remains that for some students, online access is still not available.

### **Does online remote learning mean 'live, real-time teaching element' and is there an expectation that schools must provide this? Or would pre-recorded videos be acceptable?**

There is no expectation that schools provide live-streaming of lessons. The direction from the Department for Education is clear on this. Live-streaming of lessons can present a number of issues around safe-guarding, in particular when some students are at home and others are still in the classroom for the actual lesson. However, where appropriate, some of our schools will take this approach. Our schools are providing some materials that have an element of pre-recorded teaching or video clips to support student learning and this is being developed over time.

### **How many hours of learning should my child follow when isolating?**

When teaching students remotely, our schools will plan a programme that is of equivalent length to the core teaching students would receive in school. Most schools ask students to follow their time-table for the day, others ask that they undertake a number of sessions per week, per subject. Where possible, students should be working in a quiet space where they can concentrate on their work, taking regular breaks.

### **What if my child has a special educational need or disability that makes remote learning difficult?**

Teachers in our individual schools will know how the students' 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. Staff will work collaboratively with families, putting in place reasonable adjustments as necessary, so that students with SEND can successfully access remote education alongside their peers. If parents or carers have any concerns they should contact the school's SENDCO who will be able to offer advice and support.