

Whytemead Primary School

Remote Learning Strategy

October 2020

Reviewed 25th November 2020

Reviewed 12th January 2021



The Coronavirus Act 2020 Provision of Remote Education (England) provides legal certainty for all involved in the education sector, including parents, teachers and schools themselves. It makes clear that schools have a legal duty to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children unable to attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Principles for Remote Education at Whytemead Primary School

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has found that the effectiveness of remote teaching is determined by many of the same factors as determine the effectiveness of live classroom teaching. For example:

- ensuring pupils receive clear explanations
- supporting growth in confidence with new material through scaffolded practice
- application of new knowledge or skills
- enabling pupils to receive feedback on how to progress

These form the principles upon which we set our remote learning provision. We have set out how we will achieve this for individuals isolating from school and, when required, for wider class, year group or whole school lock down.

Ensuring access to remote provision

A letter has been sent to all parents asking them to indicate what tech provision they have at home - including access to printers and whether the technology can be used if a parent is working from home or has more than 1 child.

What if I don't have access to technology at home?

Where issues arise we can overcome them by:

- ✓ Providing short term loans of iPads / Laptops - if Wi-Fi available at home.
- ✓ If there is no WiFi, we have some free mobile data SIM cards for families to use to log in to Google Classroom
- ✓ Offer to provide paper copies of all learning that can be collected once a week from school. In very isolated cases, these may be delivered.

In the letter home, we have set out our expectations for what we expect from families and children and what they can expect from us. These are;

Families and children:

- We expect all families to support the continued provision of learning and ensure that children complete what has been set as it is in the child's best interest that learning provision is not interrupted.
- We expect children to log into Google Classroom daily to complete the home learning and 'turn in' tasks set.
- We expect parents to monitor that work set on Google Classroom is being 'turned in' and children are acting on feedback given.
- We expect all remote learning to be completed to the best of the child's ability.
- We understand that remote learning can be difficult and would like to be supportive. Therefore, where support / help is required, we expect parents / carers to contact us quickly so that we can offer timely advice and support.
- We expect children to continue to read at home at least 5 times a week.

What you can expect from us:

- All children will have a log in to their Google Classroom unless they are EYFS in which case they will use tapestry (with their own log in)
- Teachers will post work onto Google Classroom - this will be under each day's date.
- Teachers will also make or use appropriate guided Google Slides (this might be from other educational sources such as Oak National Academy etc)
- We will teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects.
- If there are activities that we are doing in school but feel would not be appropriate for remote learning, we will not set them.
- Learning will be provided for at least 3 hours a day (Key Stage 1) and 4 hours a day for Key Stage 2.

What happens if my child gets stuck? Additional support for those with additional needs.

- You may email the child's class email to request support from the class teacher or LSA.
- If your child has SEND, the SENDco will be in contact at least once a week via phone or email.
- You may phone the office to ask for a call from the class teacher or a member of SLT.

How will my child be taught remotely?

- ✓ Recorded teaching using narrated Google Slides (via loom or similar) so that children can see or hear their teacher or a teacher in the same year group.
- ✓ Live sessions (including assemblies, circle times and parent's meetings)
- ✓ Text Books / Reading Books pupils have at home.
- ✓ Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.
- ✓ Long term project work and / or internet research activities
- ✓ Practical activities that make use of readily available things in the home.

How will you check that my child is engaging with their work?

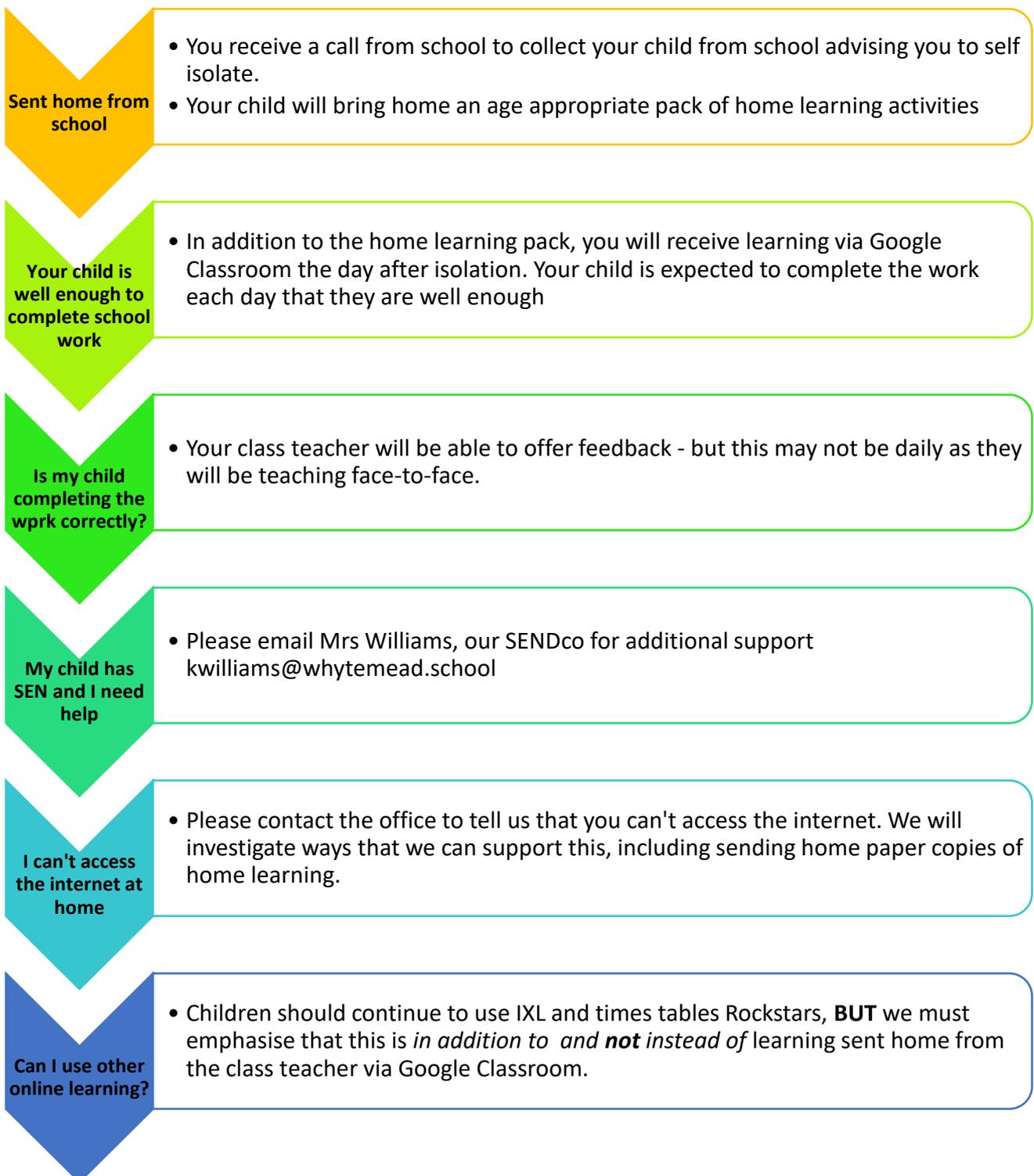
- Every day, staff can see who has 'turned in' their work set on Google Classroom. If we see a pattern of work not being turned in (2 days or more) then a phone call home will be made to offer support.
- Where work is submitted but it is not to the child's usual standard, a member of staff will offer personal feedback for it to improve. If they continue to fall short, a phone call home to parents to make them aware of the situation will be made.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

- We will assess and give regular feedback on children's work, although this may not be on every piece. This will mainly come in the form of personal comment - either written or voice recorded in the 'comment' area of Google Classroom.
- Google Quizzes and Forms are used for assessment purposes.

In the event of a single child isolating due to Coronavirus;

If your child is sent home from school with symptoms or if you have been advised to isolate, the following actions will be taken:



In the event of a class / year group or whole school being closed for a period of time:

- ✓ Teachers will continue to plan units of learning using Google Classroom, however, they will also narrate their explanation over the top of the presentation for Maths and English learning.
- ✓ Tasks set will include opportunities to scaffold children through the new learning process and provide opportunities practice this. Depth and understanding of learning will be developed by setting problems where the child will demonstrate that they can apply these new skills.
- ✓ Teachers will offer feedback through Google Classroom for how to improve work or move learning on to the next steps.
- ✓ SENDco will phone all SEN children from the class / year group at least once a week during the partial closure. Where necessary, work can be adapted by SENDco and extra support offered.
- ✓ Teaching assistants will phone pupils identified by class teacher to offer additional support.

Physical Education

Physical Education is a difficult subject to teach remotely. Where a class / year group is closed, ideas for how to keep active will be added to the PE part of the timetable.

Keeping Pupils Motivated and Engaged

We will monitor pupil engagement with remote learning provision. Where a child is not engaged, the class teacher or LSA will email or phone to find out if there are any issues with regards to this. It is expected that all pupils complete work set by the teacher in the time given. Feedback to parents will be offered to parents where it is felt that a child's engagement levels are lower than what would normally be expected.

Supporting Early Reading

Reading skills and the ability to continue to make rapid progress to gain the skills necessary to become a fluent reader will be a priority for our very young children.

Phonics lessons will be included in learning for children in EYFS, 1 and 2. Where classes are closed, this will also include a short video from the teachers, demonstrating how to make and blend the sounds.

Resources, such as words cards and sound cards, will also be emailed out for parents to use at home with their children.

Online Safety

We will only use Google Classroom to set work remotely. Teachers will only ever use their class email or Whytemead email address, they will never use a personal email address.

All online clips sent out for children to use to support their learning will have been vetted by the teachers and will be age appropriate.

Teachers will only contact, via email, during normal school hours. They will not send emails out at the weekend or respond to emails from parents over the weekend or after 4.30pm, unless in an emergency situation.

Monitoring the Effectiveness of Remote Learning and Communication

Senior Leaders will monitor the effectiveness of remote learning. Key Stage Leaders and the Headteacher will monitor planning and ensure that it fulfills the school's expectations.

We will invite all parents to complete regular feedback on the learning provision and act on feedback.

We hope that parents will feel able to support remote learning as we plan for it to be set in a clear and understandable way for all to access. However, communication on how effective our remote learning provision is will be key. Good communication will enable us to react, reflect and refine where necessary.

We will also ask that parents communicate quickly about issues arising - however small - with their class teachers through the already established class email system.

This process will be evaluated regularly (every half term or more frequently where required) and adapted where necessary, including possibilities of using digital communication tools to deliver recorded lessons.