



Remote/Blended Learning Policy September 2025

Remote Learning Introduction

In the event of long term closure or part-time attendance, staff at Newlands Junior School will continue to provide education and support to our pupils. Depending on the circumstances, learning will be conducted using in-school teaching and learning and the online platforms of Zoom and Seesaw. This will ensure that the needs of all pupils are catered for and the online platforms will allow staff to keep in daily contact and provide a two-way platform for teaching and learning, in a professional and confidential manner with each pupil in their class. Teachers will be able to schedule learning in a manner that does not overwhelm or concern our pupils. Teaching and Learning can be tailored, changed and updated as time progresses, in-line with DfE circular June 2020, allowing for replication of classroom activity to the best of our ability. In all communications, we will adhere to our commitment to maintaining pupil well-being.

Flexibility

We realise that the circumstances that cause our school to adopt a 'remote/blended learning' approach will affect families in a number of ways. In our planning and expectations, we are aware of the need for flexibility from all sides: parents may be trying to work from home and so access to technology as a family may be limited; teachers may be trying to manage their home situation and the learning of their own children, or the effective planning for both in-school and remote learning opportunities; systems may not always function as they should. An understanding of, and willingness to adapt to these difficulties on all sides is essential for success.

Safeguarding

In the event of a bubble closure, or a lockdown, we recognise pupils will be using technology for prolonged periods of time. This may be unsupervised by adults, who may be working from home or supporting siblings at different times during the day. It is vital that online safety is adhered to at all times. Pupils are reminded regularly about the e-safety policy and acceptable use agreement. Guidelines have been shared with families around online safety, particularly around the platforms being used for learning. This information, along with other guidance relating to online safety can be found on the school website.

During lessons, staff adhere to strict rules in order to maintain the safety of the children at all times. Pupils are sent the links for live lessons via seesaw which gives them direct access. This eliminates the need to send codes which could be shared. Pupils identities are checked when in the waiting room through their login details. Pupils are muted during lessons unless they are asked direct questions, therefore there is no opportunity for unwanted comments.

Lessons are delivered by 2 members of staff. One member acts as host. This enables them to check entry to the lesson and note any safeguarding concerns which may arise whilst the other delivers the lesson.

Pupils are advised they must attend lessons. For KS2 the expectations are 4 hours of learning per day. Registers are taken for each lesson and parents/carers are phoned if a child is not present. We recognise that some families need to fit the home learning around other commitments. To ensure lessons are not missed they are recorded and uploaded to Seesaw. These can be watched at a later time and the child must respond via Seesaw and submit the learning so that the teacher can see they have attended. Recordings and tasks that have been set are archived at the end of each week.

If a child does not attend the lessons or submit learning it is the responsibility of the class teacher/teaching assistant to follow this up. If this happens for more than 2 days, the head teacher/business manager then rings. If there is no response, welfare visits are made.

Equality

Newlands will work to ensure all pupils have equal access to remote learning and recognise this may be more challenging for disadvantaged families. A register is kept to inform school who would need a device or data should school closure occur. Ipads/laptops will be loaned to pupils where needed. School recognises needs may change dependant on the nature of the lockdown e.g. several siblings needing access to a device at the same time and parents/carers will be encouraged to contact school in such instances. If it is noted a child is not accessing the online learning parents/carers will be contacted to see if support is needed around devices and internet access.

Expectations

In the case of long term closure, we believe that it is in the best interests of our pupils that we continue to provide structured support to the best of our ability. Bearing in mind the need for flexibility, we understand that work may be completed out of sync. That said, the work that pupils engage in during a period of closure, or as part of the 'blended learning' approach, will be part of our current planning and so cannot be considered as optional. Pupils and parents should consider the arrangements as set out in this document as highly recommended. Teaching staff will expect to receive all home assignments within a 24-hour timeframe. Should families encounter any difficulties with this arrangement, they must be discussed with the child's class teacher in the first instance.

Teaching staff will:

- Prepare daily resources to meet the needs of each child.
- Share teaching and learning activities with their class through such platforms as Zoom and Seesaw.
- Continue providing work and support in line with current, extensive planning that is already in place throughout the school.
- Place significant emphasis on safeguarding and pastoral development.
- Give credence to the fact that learning remotely will be more difficult, so tasks will be shortened and supported in smaller steps to allow for this.
- Ensure daily contact with pupils through learning platforms.
- Reply to messages, set work and give feedback on learning/activities, within a 24-hour period.
- Understand that the circumstances may affect families in a number of ways.

If a member of staff were to be ill, the Head Teacher would be informed immediately. This would not affect the delivery of the curriculum as there will be another teacher and 2 teaching assistants within the bubble who will ensure work is provided as well as keeping in touch with parents/carers. Should several members of staff within the same bubble become ill, the SLT would plan the provision and carry out the well-being/safeguarding checks.

Non-teaching Staff will:

- Support class teachers in preparation of activities.
- Inform the Head Teacher/Assistant Head Teachers if unwell.
- Support, where necessary, individual/small groups of pupils by providing tailored activities which can also be used when learning at home.
- Have access to platforms used e.g. Zoom/Seesaw apps to support remote learning.
- Ensure their communications have been shared with the class teacher and/or SENCO.

Pupils will:

- Adhere to all guidelines as directed by staff.

- Be assured that well-being is at the forefront of our thoughts and they should take regular breaks, get fresh air, exercise and maintain a reasonable balance between online engagement and offline activities.
- Undertake any tasks prepared for home learning.
- Endeavour to keep up-to-date with daily teaching and learning, either in-school or using learning platforms.
- Only send messages and queries that are in relation to tasks set by the teacher or in response to questions the teacher may ask them directly.
- Only access the material shared by their teacher and will ask for parental permission to use technology for anything beyond that.
- Read daily, either independently or with an adult.
- Consider learning a new skill, follow their own interests to discover more about the world around us or be creative, should an extended period of remote learning be required.

Parents will:

- Support their child's learning to the best of their ability.
- Ensure their child completes all home assignments and submits them to the class teacher within 24 hours.
- Ensure, where possible, their child engages with activities set by their teacher on learning platforms.
- Not screenshot or copy any information, messages or posts to share on social media outside the school's chosen platform.
- Know they can continue to contact their class teacher as normal through the chosen platforms, Marvellous Me or by contacting the school office, if they require support of any kind.
- Check their child's completed work each day and encourage the progress that is being made.
- Be mindful of mental well-being of both themselves and their child and encourage their child to take regular breaks, play games, get fresh air and relax when working at home.

Linked documents

Online Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

Conduct and Safety for Live Lessons

A Guide to Seesaw