



Birches First School

Believe, Grow, Succeed



Remote Teaching and Learning Policy January 2021

Statement of intent

At Birches First School, we recognise that that since March 2020, there has been much disruption to children's education, therefore, we are committed to ensuring that all our pupils continue to receive a quality education.

In the uncertain times that we are currently living in, it is important that as a school, we are fully prepared for the possibility that we may have to have a full or partial closure of school depending on the local Covid-19 situation. There will also be instances where individual children will be self-isolating due to coming into contact with a positive case of COVID19. Our aim is to provide remote learning so that pupils can continue to make progress, however we appreciate that each family is unique and because of this will approach remote learning in a way which flexible enough to suits their needs.

This policy sets out our school plans for pupils to have access to a high quality remote learning curriculum at home, should the need arise.

Aims and objectives

The aims of this remote learning policy are to:

- Ensure consistency in the approach to remote learning for pupils who aren't in school.
- Set out expectations for all members of the school community with regards to remote learning.
- Provide appropriate guidelines for data protection and child protection.
- Provide continuity of learning.

The objectives of this remote learning policy are to:

- Developing an effective remote education policy that is aligned with in-school provision and curriculum planning.
- Recognising how remote education fits into school policies and legislative frameworks.
- Cultivating a whole school approach to remote education.

- Recognising the importance of effective communication and consideration for wellbeing.

Who is the remote learning plan applicable to?

Every child is expected to attend school from September 1st 2020. In line with government guidance, pupils, staff and families should self-isolate if they display any of the following symptoms:

- A continuous, dry cough
- A high temperature above 37.8°C
- A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste
- Have had access to a test and this has returned a positive result for Covid-19

Timescale

This policy will come into immediate effect in the event of:

- a full lockdown involving the whole school
- a partial lockdown involving either a whole bubble or part of a bubble
- individual children being affected

Roles and responsibilities

The role of teachers

When providing remote learning for individual children who are isolating, teachers are responsible for setting the work as outlined in our Remote Learning Offer posted on our school website.

The role of subject leads

Alongside their teaching responsibilities, subject 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
- Alerting teachers to resources they can use to teach their subject remotely

The role of the SENCO

Alongside any teaching responsibilities, the SENCO is responsible for:

- Ensuring all children with an EHCP or identified additional needs has appropriate provision for remote learning.
- Liaising with parents of SEND children to ensure they are supported in remote learning.

- Supporting teachers to ensure SEND children have appropriate learning opportunities during remote learning.

The role of the remote learning lead/Headteacher

Alongside any teaching responsibilities, the remote learning lead is responsible for:

- Co-ordinating the remote learning approach across the school
- Monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning – through access to the class/pupil
- Monitoring the security of remote learning systems, including data protection and safeguarding considerations

The role of pupils is to:

- Participate in remote learning activities provided by their teacher
- Seek help if they need it, from their teacher
- Alert their teacher if they're not able to complete work

The role of parents / carers is to:

- Encourage their child to access remote learning and any other associated activities
- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise can't complete work
- Seek help from the school if they need it
- Be respectful when making any concerns or issues known to staff

Wellbeing

At Birches First School we recognise that everyone's wellbeing is important. Learning remotely, at home, can be very intense – for parents / carers as well as children. We very much appreciate whatever support parents and carers can provide. As a school we will endeavour to ensure that work which is set, encourages our pupils to work independently, without the specific support of an adult at home, however we appreciate that this may not always be possible. Detailed advice on how to parents /carers can support their pupils as well as looking after their own wellbeing, can be found on our website.

Curriculum

At Birches First School we acknowledge that there has been much disruption to children's education, therefore, we are committed to ensuring that all children continue to receive a quality education should the need for remote learning arise. Our approach includes a blend of paper resources, online learning including resources available through online learning platforms such as:

- Oak National Academy
- BBC Bitesize
- White Rose Maths
- Purple Mash
- Twinkl

- Oxford Owl
- Times Tables Rockstars

The remote learning set for children will be in line with the learning that would take place in the classroom so the teachers will provide resources that deliver the main aspects of the curriculum.

The remote learning set by the teachers will follow the long-term curriculum plan for their class so that children can continue to access the relevant curriculum for their year. Teachers will provide adapted learning resources for children with additional learning needs, i.e. SEND or where English is an additional language.

At Birches First School, we are fully aware that these are exceptional times and each family is unique, because of this we will always try to approach remote learning in way which suits their individual needs.

Access to technology at home

Pupils and parents were questioned in the autumn term to find out about their access to technology at home. This will be used to help inform school as to children that may need their remote learning provision altering to suit their access to technology or to look at which children may be eligible for new technology that is made available by the Department for Education or via our Laptop Loan Scheme. A copy of our laptop loan agreement can be requested from the school office or found on our website. This loan agreement must be signed and handed into the school office prior to school lending a pupil a laptop for the purpose of completing remote learning activities during the period of self-isolation.

Data protection

When accessing personal data for remote learning purposes, all staff members will be able to access parent contact details via CPOMS using a secure password. They will also have access to CPOMS to record any concerns about children. School laptops and iPads are the school's preferred devices to be used when accessing any personal information on pupils. Please refer to our separate Data Protection and Online-Safety policies for further guidance.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains key throughout this time and particularly in this new area of remote learning for our school. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Child Protection and Safeguarding policies for further guidance.

Links with other policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Behaviour policy
- Child protection policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Data protection policy
- Online safety policy
- Online Code of Conduct

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed at appropriate intervals in response to the pandemic by the Head teacher and SLT. This policy will also be reviewed whenever updated guidance to remote learning is provided by the DfE. The Headteacher and SLT will liaise regularly with staff, to monitor the effectiveness of the policy. At every review, it will be approved by the governing body.