St Joseph's College

REMOTE LEARNING POLICY

Date of Latest Review:	November 2023
Next Review Date:	November 2024
Policy Available for Staff at:	TEAMS
Policy Available for Parents at:	Website
Headteacher:	Ms M Roberts

Scenarios where remote education should be provided

Attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. Schools should consider providing remote education to pupils in circumstances when in-person attendance is either not possible or contrary to government guidance.

This might include:

- occasions when school leaders decide that it is not possible for their setting to open safely, or that opening would contradict guidance from local or central government
- occasions when individual pupils, for a limited duration, are unable to physically attend their school but are able to continue learning, for example pupils with an infectious illness. This will be assessed by senior leaders on a case by case basis

In these circumstances pupils should have access to remote education as soon as reasonably practicable, though in proportion to the length of absence and disruption to their learning. Good practice is considered to be 5 hours a day for key stages 3, 4 and 5.

What to provide

Live streaming, recorded lessons, online videos, work sent via Teams and / or satchel:one, other online platforms e.g. BBC Bitesize, Seneca or UpLearn are all effective tools for remote learning. The work set must match the current curriculum sequence and be of comparable breadth and challenge.

Online video lessons do not necessarily need to be recorded by teaching staff at the school. High quality lessons developed by external providers can be provided instead of school led video content e.g. Oak Academy.

In order to ensure no pupil is left behind, especially those without access to technology; the school may:
- distribute school-owned laptops accompanied by a user agreement or contract if possible
- secure appropriate internet connectivity solutions where possible
- provide printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, to structure learning, supplemented with other forms of communication to keep pupils on track or answer questions about work
- have systems for checking, daily, whether pupils learning remotely are engaging with their work, and work with families to rapidly identify effective solutions where engagement is a concern
- identify a named senior leader with overarching responsibility for the quality and delivery of remote education if schools feel this will be useful

When teaching pupils remotely, schools should continue to consider how to transfer into remote education what we already know about effective teaching in the live classroom. This should include opportunities for regular feedback and interaction with teachers and peers during the school day.

Provision for pupils with SEND

If pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are not able to be in school and require remote education their teachers are best placed to know how the pupil's needs can be most effectively met to ensure they continue to make progress.

We recognise that some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support. We will work collaboratively with families and put in place reasonable adjustments so that pupils with SEND can successfully access remote education.

The requirement within the 2014 Children and Families Act for schools to use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision called for by the pupils' special educational needs remains in place.

Publishing information about remote provision

To provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if it is required, schools may wish to continue to publish information about their remote education provision on their websites.

Delivering remote education safely

Keeping children safe online is essential. The guidance on safeguarding and remote education provides the information on what education settings should be doing to protect your pupils and students online. The guidance includes a collection of resources which includes support for:

- safe remote education
- virtual lessons
- live streaming
- information to share with parents and carers to support them in keeping their children safe online

For schools delivering their remote education through live and recorded lessons, the following support is available through third-party resources:

- Safe Remote Learning knowledge base by South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL)
- live remote lessons – SWGfL article answering questions asked of the Professional Online Safety Helpline addressing key concerns from teachers
- National Cyber Security Centre, which includes information on which video conference service is right for you and using video conferencing services securely