Blended Learning Policy

School Values

ENJOYMENT HONESTY CARING RESPECT EQUALITY

Introduction

At Larkhall we recognise the importance of providing engaging and accessible home learning in the event of children being absent from school for a period of time.

During the school closures in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the UK, schools found they had to quickly adapt to providing pupils with learning opportunities they could access from home. Over the course of the subsequent lockdown period, school leaders and teachers had to develop systems for delivering home learning to their pupils for a significant amount of time. Now that schools have reopened to all pupils and classroom learning is returning largely to 'normal', it is more important than ever to have a plan in place to support any potential home learning for classes, year groups or the whole school, should a need to isolate or close again during the ongoing pandemic.

To be fully prepared in the event of future closures, partial closures or isolation of bubbles, Larkhall has carefully considered, consulted on and developed this policy for remote learning. The overarching goal is to enable pupils to access high-quality teaching and learning even when they are unable to attend school. The policy outlines how teachers and other school staff will work to provide remote learning.

Aims

The aims of this policy are in line with current government guidance on schools reopening from September 2020.
The specific aims are:

- to plan and outline how and when the remote learning policy will be implemented in Larkhall
- to support all pupils in their access to high- quality remote teaching and learning;
- to provide a clear remote learning strategy, including how and when learning should be assigned remotely, how it will be communicated, how pupils will submit work and how they will receive feedback on submitted work;
- to anticipate, identify and address any concerns associated with remote learning, relating to safeguarding, data protection, and health and safety;
- to make staff roles and responsibilities clear in relation to remote learning;
- to declare the software and online tools approved for use by Larkhall to support remote learning;
- to declare how and when Larkhall will support the delivery of home learning by staff, including the possible provision of technology.

Section One: Remote Learning Strategy

Circumstances where this policy will become operational

The systems and procedures outlined in this remote learning policy will come into effect under any of the following circumstances:

- a pupil, groups of pupils, class or bubble are required to self-isolate at home
- in the implementation of a local area lockdown and subsequent school closure
- if a member of staff is required to self-isolate but able to work from home

EYFS
Our Early Years Foundation Stage will be accessing learning activities via a weekly newsletter which will include activities and support for parents for all curriculum areas. Each week there will

also be 'how to' videos on Youtube, linked to the weeks' learning to support parents with their children's learning. E.g. weekly short videos about each new sound. This will also include a video recording of the Story of the Week. Parents will be able to share their learning with teachers via photographs shared on Class Dojo.

<u>Year 1</u>
Year 1 will be using Class Dojo where children are not yet confident in using Google Classroom. A newsletter will be sent to parents in the appropriate weeks to outline the daily sessions available and how to record the learning to send back to them. These sessions will include daily phonics and maths as well as writing tasks and cross curricular learning opportunities. During Summer term, children will be introduced to Google Classroom and supported to login. This will then be used as in years 2 to 6 .

<u>Year 2 -6</u>
Children in Year 2-6 will use Google Classroom to enable all of our pupils to access home learning daily; replicating the learning that is happening/ was planned to happen within school. Every child has a unique login to the Classroom. Google Classroom is a safe and secure solution for children to access learning materials directly from their class teachers; a location in which they can collaborate with their peers by sharing useful websites and tips to complete assignments; a hub to allow blended learning directly from their school classrooms into the comfort of their own homes.

We have set out clear home learning expectations for all children across the school which can be found here.

Parents have been made clear of the expectations of children completing their learning at home and have signed an agreement acknowledging the importance of continuing learning at home if needed, as well as the responsibilities of the parents (guardians), the child and the school. This agreement can be found here.

We have identified families and children who will need additional support in accessing home learning and alternative arrangements will be made to support these families. This includes, but is not limited to, additional phone calls with parents and children from their class teacher and paper based learning which can be posted or hand delivered to families nearby.

The school has asked all families what technology and internet access they have at home. Based on this information we will ensure children have either the correct technology (such as via the government laptop scheme), or access to paper based copies of all learning. We have chosen online tools and apps that are easy to use and that we feel will be accessible by most families. Regular communication will take place with families while they are not attending school to ensure home learning is accessible and taking place.

<u>Online Safety</u>
- On Google Classroom there is no sharing of personal information, only school staff have access to each child's online learning. Log ins are required for all online learning for both staff and students.
- Online commenting is disabled or moderated and only the teachers are able to post public messages.
- Online learning is linked to staff existing work accounts.
- Where staff do have home access to families personal details, for instance for making contact with families during their absence, clear procedures and guidelines are in place to ensure information is secured safely and so that staff personal details are not shared with families.