



Bagshot Infant School

Remote Learning Strategy

September 2020

Introduction

Home learning in 2020, as consequence of the Coronavirus global pandemic, has taken on a new meaning to all schools up and down the country.

In September 2020, all of our classes returned to full-time education. Although we hope that the majority of our children will now have an uninterrupted experience, there is the possibility that an individual child, a class bubble, or indeed the whole school, will need to self-isolate for a period of time. We have therefore put in place a plan for remote learning so that all children can continue with their education.

This strategy document outlines our plan, to the support we will offer children and parents in the event of remote-Learning being implemented.

When formulating our plan we have paid due regard to DfE guidance issued including: '*Remote Education Support*' <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Setting the Scene

Where we were:

In the weeks prior to the National lockdown in March we created overviews for each group, detailing a 'typical day in school' and listed activities and websites that parents could use at home, should there be a lockdown. Once lockdown was enacted we created a new curriculum area on our school website and shared weekly learning projects and home learning suggestions with our parents.

We continued to offer in school learning for our Key worker and vulnerable learners.

Throughout this period staff were available to support parents should the need have arisen.

Our most vulnerable families, who were unable to attend school were called at least weekly by a member of the Senior Leadership team.

During the Easter holidays staff developed a more bespoke model of remote learning for each year group. Parents were sent weekly emails, outlining the work their children were expected to complete. This work was also added to the school website to ensure equality of access. Those parents unable to print or download resources were provided a paper copy of resources, upon request.

Vulnerable learners and families continued to be contacted regularly.

Once schools partially reopened to more children in June, we continued to send learning to all parents and carers, regardless of whether they chose to return their child to school.

Those children in school followed the same format of learning as those at home.

Where we are now (including what we've done)

Following the national lockdown, we reflected on the remote learning experience of our children across the school and as a result decided to make the following changes to our approach:

- We have set up class specific email accounts so that parents and children can have direct access to their teachers, during both in school and lockdown times.
- We have purchased Win books for each teacher, from LGFL to ensure they have the technology available to prepare lessons that are compatible with Google Classroom. (Delivery delayed and expected November 2020)
- We have conducted a school wide home technology survey to establish what access families have, to which devices and to reliable internet connection.
- In the event that families do not have the equipment/facilities at home to access their child's learning online we have ensured parents are aware that paper copies can be provided.
- Set clear expectations for parents regarding the return of completed remote learning to teachers.
- Set clear expectations for parents around teacher feedback and marking.
- Invested in a learning platform/virtual classroom (Google Classroom) that children and parents can access from home and at school.
- Appointed a Digital champion to lead staff development and quality assure provision.
- Begun training our staff on how to effectively use Google Classroom.
- Familiarising the children with Google classroom at school, for events such as Stars of the Week assembly.
- Prepared remote learning packs, both digital and paper based for any children that have to isolate.

- Shared *Peek at the week*, our weekly class newsletter, to our school website to ensure parents are aware of 'in school learning', should they be isolating at home.

Where we are now (1st Sep 2020 - 31st Oct 2020)

- We are building teacher confidence in using Google classroom including how to use the technology and the best ways to engage children and parents remotely.
- Creating a protocol to ensure staff understand and our offer is equitable across all class groups; i.e. Three lessons uploaded each day, agreed number of check ins and welfare checks.
- Developing a sense of belonging and familiarity for the children by using Google classroom at school, for events such as Star of the Week assembly.
- Assessing learning gaps to ensure progression for all learners.
- Parental expectation - refining how we can share effective lessons and learning experiences for children whilst also upskilling and communicating with parents about the learning that is taking place for each lesson.
- The school website curriculum area is updated with useful websites, for each year group, signposting parents to additional learning resources.
- Reading egg accounts are being set up for all new Reception children and KS1 children are being encouraged to continue accessing their accounts, both in school and at home.
- Teachers across the school are asking parents to email completed home learning (normal homework) via the class email accounts to develop the habit of submitting work in preparation for a year group lockdown, individual isolation should one occur.
- We are monitoring which parents are not regularly returning home learning electronically, accessing parentmail, reading eggs etc and asking why. Each parent is contacted to discuss any issues they may face, and where possible signposting them to potential sources of support for purchase of equipment. (Infant Schools are not eligible to apply for the DfE laptop scheme)
- Providing remote learning for families that are needing to self-isolate, via email and/or paper should the need arise.
- Where funding can be accessed, remote devices (e.g. laptops) and/or 4G connections will be sought, particularly for disadvantaged children. Parents will be reminded to make the school aware of any barriers to accessing remote learning

Where we are going (1st Nov 2020 - 31st Dec 2020)

As we enter Autumn Term 2 we plan to implement Google Classroom as our main platform for remote learning.

- We will launch google classroom to all parents, share login details and provide help guides to assist parents.
- Home learning will be set on the platform with the expectation that parents will submit their child's work weekly.
- Parents will use Google Classroom as the main source of electronic communication with teachers.
- Teachers will mark and respond to work submitted.
- Should a child have difficulty with their learning, their parents will be able to contact the class teacher via their Google Classroom to help resolve any misconceptions.
- Should a child/class/year group/whole school need to self-isolate work will be provided, via Google classroom within 24hrs, during the normal school week.
- During an isolation period, teachers will provide three daily lessons; Maths, English and Topic.
- Lessons may include written instruction via a power point presentation, voice over presentations, activities, quizzes and worksheets to complete, as age and stage appropriate.
- The class folder, within Google Classroom will signpost parents to supplementary learning opportunities, for example useful websites, suggested topic activities etc for those children/parents that would like to undertake additional learning activities.
- Should a whole class be in isolation teachers, if not ill themselves, will provide a daily check in each day for families. A member of the Senior Leadership team will provide this check in, should the teacher be unfit and unable.
- If individual children are isolating, awaiting test outcomes senior leaders will check in with families each day, usually via the telephone.
- We will continue to provide remote learning paper packs, reading books and check ins for any families that are unable to access our electronic offer, where a device has not been successfully sourced.

Where we are going (1st Jan 2021 - 21st Jul 2021)

As we enter 2021 our next step will be to further refine systems and approaches for continuing to build a sense of true belonging, regardless of the physical barrier of being at home and so we will refine and implement our approaches accordingly.