**Strabane Controlled Primary School**



**REMOTE LEARNING POLICY**

Date approved by

Board of Governors: 3rd October 2017

Review Due: October 2020

Date approved by

Board of Governors: September 2020

Next Review Due: September 2021

Date approved by

Board of Governors: 3rd October 2017

Review Due: October 2020

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**Context**

This policy has been informed by the collation of data gathered from a remote learning/lockdown questionnaire distributed to parents. Teaching staff were then asked to complete a series of questions on their experiences and to gather every teacher’s professional opinion. Data will be collected from the children during the first weeks as they settle back to their new school day. This policy may then have amendments made to reflect these findings.

**Introduction**

If Strabane Controlled PS faces a period of short or long term closure, staff will continue to provide education and support to our parents and pupils using Remote Learning where possible.

The main electronic communications tool which will be used across the school will be SEESAW. The senior classes may at times use Google classroom. This mechanism will allow staff to keep in regular contact with their pupils and parents using an appropriate platform and one which is user friendly to all. During a period of remote learning, the normal day to day teaching and learning which normally takes place in a school environment, will be carefully considered and this will form the content of the activities delivered into the home electronically or indeed by way of a class pack where possible. The Health and Well-Being of our pupils and families will also be a focus with activities and communications designed to address these needs.

**Challenges around Remote Learning**

* Ensuring internet access for all pupils
* Ensuring all pupils have access to an appropriate electronic device
* Measuring broadband and internet provision in all localities.
* Working parents
* Shared devices with other family members
* Childcare
* Parent confidence in home schooling
* Time
* Resources such as paper, ink and stationery
* School environment and setting
* Teachers who have home circumstances which make it challenging to provide remote learning.

**Managing Expectations**

It is in the best interests of our children to continue to provide structured support through remote learning. Due to a range of factors which will affect each household’s capacity to carryout remote learning, there will be a degree of flexibility with regard to submission of work and/or feedback. It is important that parents strive to achieve the targets set for their children and seek support from the school if required. Children and parents should consider the arrangements as set out in this document as highly recommended

**Teachers will:**

* Share the teaching and learning activities with their class through SEESAW and the School website – Home Learning Portal.
* Continue to plan the teaching content in line with the extensive planning that is already in place throughout the school;
* Accept the fact that learning remotely will be more difficult, so tasks will be set in smaller steps to allow for this;
* Keep in contact with children through the SEESAW App and or school website;
* Reply to messages, set work and give feedback on activities during the normal teaching hours 9.00 am - 2:55pmon weekdays;
* Allow flexibility in the completion of activities, understanding that the circumstances leading to our closure will affect families in a number of ways;
* Take regular breaks away from the computer or iPad to engage in other professional duties as much as circumstances allow e.g. Policy Development;
* If unwell themselves, be covered by another staff member for the sharing of activities. Follow up of messages on the SEESAW App and school website during this time will not be undertaken until the teacher is fit to work.

**Children will:**

* Be assured that health and wellbeing is a priority and therefore take regular breaks, get fresh air, exercise and maintain a reasonable balance between online engagement and offline activities;
* 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 ask for parental permission to use technology for anything beyond that;
* Read daily, either independently or with an adult and where applicable engage with Accelerated Reader;
* Consider using the school closure time to learn a new skill, follow their own interests to discover more about the world around us or just be creative.
* P2 – P7 will continue to use their personal Mathletics resources.
* Pupils who have access to Lexia will continue to use this resource online

**Parents will:-**

* Support their child’s learning to the best of their ability;
* Encourage their child to access and engage with SEESAW posts from their teacher;
* Refrain from screenshotting or copying any information, messages or posts to share on social media or any other platform outside of the SEESAW
* Know they can continue to contact their class teacher as normal through the SEESAW or Website 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;

N.B. In compliance with Copyright Law and regulations governing the use of photocopiable materials parents must note that resources are for viewing online only on our secure class portals. They must not be printed, photocopied or distributed. The school will not take responsibility for any breach of Copyright Law.

**Remote Learning Systems Access Information**

**Nursery, Year 1 and 2**

Nursery, Year 1 and 2 teachers will use the Seesaw App and the Home Learning Portal to send out details regarding learning activities for children;

* Learning Packs containing printed learning resources will be available from the school for all Nursery, Year 1 and 2 children. Parents may collect these packs from the school assembly hall/canteen area at a prearranged time ;
* Parents should continue to read with their children;
* Songs, rhymes and opportunities to talk should be maximised;
* Practical activities such as baking, painting and craftwork should also be undertaken;
* Children in Year 2 have access to Mathletics. Logon details will have been sent home for all Year 2 and up children; To access the system please go to the school website www.strabaneps.co.uk; 3. Click on the Home learning tab; 4. Here you will find a short video tutorial from our Staff.

**Year 3**

Year 3 teachers will use the Seesaw App and the Home Learning Portal to send out details regarding learning activities for children;

* Learning Packs containing printed learning resources will be available from the school for all Year 3 children. Parents may collect these packs from the school assembly hall/canteen as prearranged;
* Parents should continue to read with their children;
* Songs, rhymes and opportunities to talk should be maximised;
* Practical activities such as baking, painting and craftwork should also be undertaken;
* Children in Year 3 have access to the Mathletics system and Lexia system; Logon details will have been sent home for all Year 2 and up children; To access the system please go to the school website www.strabaneps.co.uk; 3. Click on the Home learning tab; 4. Here you will find a short video tutorial from our Staff.

**Year 4**

Year 4 teachers will use the Seesaw App and the Home Learning Portal to send out details regarding learning activities for children;

* Learning Packs containing printed learning resources will be available from the school for all Year 4 children. Parents may collect these packs from the school assembly hall/canteen as prearranged;
* A balance between outdoor learning and practical learning can be struck and we would encourage life skills such as preparing food, setting the table, organising a cupboard etc.
* Children in Year 4 have access to the Mathletics system for their Numeracy activities
* Learning Support pupils have access to Lexia;
* To access the system please go to the school website www.strabaneps.co.uk; Click on the Home learning tab; Here you will find a short video tutorial from our Staff.

**Year 5, 6 and 7**

* Year 5, 6 and 7 teachers will use the Seesaw App, school website and when required, Google Classrooms to send out details regarding home learning activities for the children
* These platforms will be used to set tasks and provide access to teacher presentations and spellings;
* Learning packs will be available from the school for all Years 5, 6 and 7 children. These packs will be distributed at a prearranged time.
* Children in Year 5, 6 and 7 have access to the Mathletics system for their Numeracy activities;
* They will also have access to the Accelerated Reading system for their reading activities;
* We would ask parents to ensure that their children continue reading and taking their Accelerated Reader tests as soon as they have completed reading a book;
* Logon details have been sent home for all Years 5, 6 and 7 children;
* Children in Year 5, 6 and 7 who use Lexia will have access to this system also;
* To access all the systems detailed above please go to the school website www.strabaneps.co.uk; Click on the Home learning tab; Here you will find a short video tutorial from our Staff.

Access to websites and platforms for remote learning (Lexia, Mathletics, SEESAW, and Accelerated Reader) are available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week to aid parents who may be working and balancing home schooling.