

## Bakewell Methodist Junior School **Blended Learning Policy**



### Rationale

When we were told to close our school on March 20<sup>th</sup> we had no way of offering continued learning for our pupils. We worked hard to evaluate resources and pull together a coherent set of lessons from what was available. We have listened and made improvements. This is our plan to ensure learning is disrupted as little as possible by the current situation.

### Improvements

We recognise that many of our families found this time difficult and many factors prevented effective learning being done at home. We have tried to understand the challenges families faced and address some issues, so that all children can undertake some learning every day, even if they cannot come to school. In feedback, parents told us which resources they liked and how we might improve our provision. They told us they felt the lessons should be more personal and that children would respond better if the teacher gave more feedback.

### Sustainability

During lockdown and the wider opening of schools in June and July, teachers did an amazing job of supervising learning in school whilst providing work for children at home. This is unsustainable. It is a full time job to plan lessons, deliver them and provide feedback that moves learning forwards for several lessons each day. I have asked teachers to provide high quality, personalised learning for their class if a whole class (or the whole school) needs to work at home. If individual children need to be away from school for a few days they will access a more restricted set of activities.

### Aims

- To ensure learning suffers little or no disruption
- To engage and motivate pupils
- To provide feedback on learning

### The role of staff:

- To provide appropriate lessons and activities that allows learning to go uninterrupted.
- To promote an ethos of inclusion, respect, fairness and equality.
- To ensure that cyber resilience and internet safety is promoted.
- To provide support and guidance for pupils.
- To engage with effective learning and teaching resources.
- To ensure effective communication between home and school.
- To adhere to government Health and Safety guidelines.

### The role of the pupils:

- To engage in learning at home through Microsoft Teams,
- To show respect to others,
- To try hard and show resilience,
- To keep safe.

### The role of parents:

To support the school values,  
To enable access to, support and engage with online learning,  
To communicate with school.

### **When will online work be needed?**

#### Short term

If a child is too poorly to come to school, they should not access work. They should rest and be ready to get back to learning at school.

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, is waiting for a test or result or cannot come to school for some other short term COVID related reason, they can go on times table Rockstars, read their reading book and learn spellings. If this is longer than a day or two, tasks will be set on Teams. If they are too poorly with COVID-symptoms they will not be expected to do school work.

#### Longer Term-Closure of Bubbles or Lockdown

In the event of a local lockdown or closure of school or bubbles resources will be provided to enable every child to continue learning at home until it is safe for them to return.

If you choose to take your child on an unauthorised holiday, work will not be set.

### **What will Blended Learning look like at our school?**

#### Short term

English – Oak National Academy. This will be posted on Teams.

Maths – White Rose or Oak National Academy. A lesson will be posted on Teams. The content will run alongside what your child would have been doing at school, as far as possible.

#### Longer Term

If a whole class or the whole school is sent home, work will be set by the class teacher who may also be at home. This work will consist of English, maths and topic work. The detail of this is set out below.

#### Maths

Lesson will follow the structure of the maths scheme used in school. The class teacher will present the pre-recorded lesson via PowerPoint and allow time for investigation and work to be done in the maths journal (exercise book). The lesson will include a conclusion so that children can see how well they have done. Sometimes the teacher will ask that a parent takes a photo of the work and submit it. All work will be set, submitted and feedback given on the child's class area of Teams.

#### English

Lesson will follow the structure of the English scheme used in school. The class teacher will present the pre-recorded lesson via PowerPoint and allow time for children to undertake reading, writing, spelling or grammar tasks. Word documents can be submitted online. Sometimes a parent may be asked take a photo of the work and submit it. This will all be within the child's class area of Teams

### Feedback

Where teachers have asked for work to be returned, they will submit a feedback on Teams. This will indicate where work has gone well and it may try to iron out any misconceptions. It will offer praise and encouragement. Teachers may want to indicate individual children who have done very well or tried hard. Teachers will not publicly identify children who have found the task difficult.

### Other Subject Areas-Topic

Teachers will post activities on Teams each day that they expect to be attempted by the class. These will be a mixture of subjects and types of activities. Teachers will consider if all children will be able to access the tasks and how much support would be required. Children may be asked to submit work by word or a photo. Feedback will be given promptly.

### Is the work optional?

If a child is well and at home as a result of COVOD-19, they will be expected to do work each day. Encouragement and reminders will be given over Teams. If a child consistently neglects to access and submit work, a member of staff will contact parents to discuss the reason for this and to offer support.

### Guidelines for Parents

- Please take steps to ensure your child attends school every day if they are well and it is within the law/guidelines for them to attend.
- See our website for information on when to send your child to school and when to keep them at home.
- If a bubble is closed or we are in Lockdown, all children will be expected to do at least three activities each day.
- Plan out your day in advance and ensure children are not at a screen for too long. Plan in breaks and other activities.
- You are (probably) not a teacher! Do not be overwhelmed by the task. Do your best and stay positive. (Get support if you need it. See- **Support.**)
- Help your child to access Teams.
- Keep children safe online ([www.thinkuknownow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknownow.co.uk/parents)).
- Help them post a picture or piece of work onto Teams when required.
- Check the feedback and share it with them.
- Monitor your child- if they are losing concentration, stop the activity, have a break and go back to after 10 minutes.

Here is an example of a daily plan that you might want to use. You might want to use your own or maybe a more informal approach would suit your family better.

#### My Daily Plan

8.45am	Check feedback from previous day's lessons
9.00am	Maths- Place value big numbers- lesson on Teams.
9.30am	Break- feeding my pet.
9.45am	English- lesson 1 Action stories
10.30am	Long Break
11.00am	Topic- Remembrance- Read a poem- write a prayer for a Remembrance service.
11.45am	Break then lunch
1.30pm	Topic- drawing a Tudor house.
2.15pm	Break and end of school activities.

#### **Support**

- If you have technical issues with using Teams please email [info@bakewell-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@bakewell-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk) and include 'Teams enquiry FAO Mrs Cusworth' in the subject.
- If you need support with the content of the work please, send a message through Teams so the teacher can see there are some difficulties.
- If you need other types of support through a lockdown or extended absence please phone school on 01629 812389.
- If your concern is of a very private (but not urgent) nature you can email the Headteacher directly on [sowens@bakewell-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:sowens@bakewell-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk).

Phone calls are usually monitored each day but it could take up to five days for a reply from an email.