



Ashfield Junior School

Inspiring our children to dream big, be extraordinary
and to change the world

Remote Learning Policy

Date agreed: January 2025

Date of next review: January 2028

Overview

Historically, this policy was introduced when children were required to self-isolate due to having contracted the COVID virus or having come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for the COVID virus. The school provided remote learning activities via the website or provided a remote learning pack which was delivered to the child's home. The school aimed to do this by the end of the second day of absence. Online activities were updated daily and the paper pack contained adequate instructions and resources for 5 days of learning.

When the school needed to close a whole year group bubble or was restricted from opening due to a lockdown or advice from Public Health England, the school used the website to signpost remote learning. This led children and parents to the information for each year group and contained a daily blog and a variety of resources and activities for families to access. If a child did not have access to a computer/laptop and/or the internet, the school supported children and provided paper packs of learning.

Since school's 'reopened' following the pandemic (April 2022), COVID is now treated like any other illness. Children do not need to self-isolate if they have COVID and have no symptoms. Children are expected to be in school unless they are too ill to attend. Following DfE guidance ('Remote Education Support [Get help with remote education - GOV.UK](#) and [Remote education – when can school children learn from home and how should they do it? – The Education Hub](#)), there may, however, be times when a pupil is unable to attend because their school is forced to restrict attendance to some or all pupils, for example during any disruption that may be caused by upcoming strike action. In exceptional cases, a child might also be unable to attend for medical reasons but well enough to learn from home. In these circumstances, a school may consider providing remote education, allowing children to keep on track with their education and stay connected to their teachers and friends.

When can school children learn from home?

It is really important that remote education is not viewed as an equal alternative to attendance in school. For this reason, we will only consider it as a last resort when the alternative would be no education.

Ashfield Junior School may suggest that pupils should learn from home 'remotely' if pupils are unable to attend school in person due to closures or restrictions on attendance. This might, for example, be due to adverse weather or because there are higher than normal levels of staff absence. Restrictions to school attendance and closures should only happen in very exceptional circumstances and usually only where school leaders or the local authority (also known as the council) have decided that it would not be possible to open a school safely.

There may also be limited instances where an individual pupil cannot attend school but is still able or well enough to continue their learning. This could be because they are:

- Recovering from a short-term infectious illness.
- Preparing for or recovering from an operation.
- Recovering from an injury.
- Affected by a special educational need or disability (SEND) or a mental health issue which is impacting attendance (in exceptional cases).

When a child cannot attend school but is well enough to learn, we may always seek to overcome the barriers to attendance and provide support for the pupil to attend before offering remote education. It is important that remote education is only considered as a last resort and a short-term solution as part of a plan to reintegrate back to school.

Children whose attendance is likely to be affected in the long-term may need additional support. To bring the absence to an end as soon as possible, the school should work with the child, their parents or carers and, if appropriate, a relevant medical professional.

How should children access remote education?

It is the school's responsibility to make sure that any work provided during periods of remote education is high quality, ambitious, and covers an appropriate range of subjects. Schools should aim for remote work to be equivalent in length to the core teaching time they would receive in school. However, this is not always possible and a child's age, home environment and learning needs should be considered.

Not every pupil is able to access online or digital remote education, and schools should consider working to overcome these barriers. For example, they might distribute school-owned devices like laptops or tablets or provide printed resources.

Remote education might include:

- Recorded and / or live direct teaching time, delivered by a teacher.
- Work accessed via a digital education platform – these are likely to be platforms the school use regularly and that parents and children are already familiar with
- Tasks set for a child to complete independently and reading assignments.
- Access to high-quality lessons developed by the [Oak National Academy](#) or other external online resource providers the school trusts and recommends.
- Printed resources or workbooks sent home.

Teachers may provide work for the child to complete that they are currently working on at school. However, it may also include work listed in the table below.

| SUBJECT | WEB LINK | DETAIL |
|---------|---|---|
| Maths | <p>https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/</p> <p>https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-2/subjects/math</p> <p>nrich Maths</p> <p>https://trockstars.com/ https://login.mymaths.co.uk/login https://www.rmeasimaths.com/</p> | <p>Using White Rose maths, children will complete a session which includes a video and subsequent questions on a worksheet.</p> <p>Oak Academy lessons start with a quiz on the previous days learning, then the new topic is taught on video by a teacher. There are opportunities to practise throughout the video. There is then some independent practice work to complete and a quiz to see if the learning has stuck.</p> <p>Nrich has interesting problem solving tasks</p> <p>TT Rockstars and Easimaths will help children practise their times tables and basic arithmetic skills, while MyMaths provides lessons, practice and homework activities for the whole maths curriculum. Your child has the login details for these in their reading record or homework diary.</p> |
| Reading | <p>https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/Libraries-and-archives/Books-and-reading/Ebooks-and-Audiobooks/ebooks-and-audiobooks.aspx</p> <p>https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/</p> <p>https://library.thenational.academy/</p> <p>https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/</p> | <p>Children should read from their own reading book. If your child has a library card they can borrow e-books and audiobooks from Borrow Box.</p> <p>Oxford Owls also allows download and reading of free e-books</p> <p>Oak Academy have launched a virtual library offering free access to books</p> <p>Book Trust - Videos of books being shared</p> |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/ https://www.picture-news.co.uk/ | <p>Book Trust – Ebooks in video form</p> <p>weekly news resources from around the world</p> |
| Writing incl. Spelling | https://www.talk4writing.com/home-school-units/ https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar | <p>Using Talk4Writing materials, the children will have the opportunity to practise their writing skills.</p> <p>Top marks – free spelling and SPaG games</p> |
| Other Curriculum subjects | https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/this-terms-topics https://classroom.thenational.academy/ https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/468235/starters-stem#&gid=undefined&pid=5 | <p>BBC Bitesize and the Oak Academy contain a range of different subjects for different ages.</p> <p>Starters for STEM containing lots of fun ‘mini’ science ideas for children of all ages.</p> |

BBC Bitesize

[Bitesize Daily](#) has been developed by the BBC to provide new lessons every weekday for pupils in Year 1 to Year 10. Created in collaboration with teachers and educational experts, its videos and interactive activities cover core subjects and other topics on the school curriculum.

Oak National Academy

The 'teaching content' will be provided to children through age appropriate video content on the DfE published list of educational resources site; from [Oak National Academy](#). In their 'classroom' each lesson is around an hour-long. They are delivered by a practising teacher, with a pre-recorded video as well as quizzes, worksheets and creative activities. It's all easy to use, there's no login or password, and you can access the lessons on any device - pupils only need materials they can find at home.

Other resources

We may use recorded video to provide weekly information, instructional videos and assemblies. For example:

- [STEM Learning remote lessons](#) include videos, activities and worksheets
- [Science Sparks](#) (including loads of challenges and periodic table of experiments)
- The [Imagination Tree](#) (craft and creative play ideas, including my favourite fab play dough recipe!)
- Primary Science Teaching Trust (PSTT) [resources for home learning](#)
- [ReachOut Reporter](#) – topical news stories
- [Science Museum](#) activities to do
- The [Royal Institution](#) activities
- Find out about real life scientists with [Research Champions](#)
- National Aquarium live lessons <https://www.national-aquarium.co.uk/learning-at-the-aquarium/home-learning-sessions/>
- Monterey Bay Aquarium Kelp Forest Talk/feeding 10am daily <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams/kelp-forest-cam>
- Glasgow Science Centre brings science into your home every day at 10am to help keep everyone inspired in these challenging times <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAPeZejmELU23udGRxtW14g>
- Natural History Museum Live events https://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit/exhibitions/nature-live.html?fbclid=IwAR3SBeA1JHUHC2Y2Fxi_tH9fTEOWMER-N043xXg4AjQHPPFuY6tLYaWAIM
- Theatre of Science <https://www.facebook.com/theatreofscience/> Lessons every Tuesday at 1:30pm

Providing feedback

Pupils or their parents can send any completed work/photographs to teachers view the admin email account. admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk. These will be forwarded to the class teacher. Work will receive an acknowledgement from a teacher or other school staff. This will not aim to replicate

feedback on strengths and development in learning that parents might expect when the school is open and working normally.

Contact with Pupils

Keeping relationships and social interactions strong is essential to both staff and pupils' wellbeing. Should the school be closed, Ashfield staff will not be delivering live lessons. However, staff will communicate with children via parents via email. The office staff will forward work and messages onto the children. If a child is unable to attend school but can access work via remote learning (e.g. recovering from an operation), the teacher may contact the child via the parent either by email or phone to signpost work and/or check on the child's wellbeing.

Meeting Protocol

Should the school be closed for a prolonged period, the school may provide an opportunity for the class to meet using Teams. If this occurs, a Teams link will be sent to parents with an invitation to join the class meeting. To ensure that the meeting runs smoothly and safely, the following expectations will be shared.

Rules for safe and happy Teams meetings will be shared with the children at the start of each session.

Children must:

- mute on entry,
- take turns to speak,
- Show good listening skills
- Participates and allow others to participate,
- Speak gently and kindly (no slang or rude language),
- Use proper names

Consequences of Poor Behaviour

If a child is inappropriate or misbehaves, then they will be given a warning that the behaviour is inappropriate and that the teacher will remove them from the meeting if they do not desist. If staff need to remove a child from the Teams meeting, this will be followed up with a phone call to parents as soon as possible.

Contact with Parents

Parents are able to contact the school via telephone, and the school office email address. Where a pupil is self-isolating on medical ground for a significant period of time, contact will be made via telephone on a weekly basis to monitor learning and provide support if needed. Pupils identified as vulnerable will be contacted by a member of the SLT a minimum of twice a week and support offered as necessary.

Safeguarding

Please refer to Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Data protection

When accessing personal data, all staff members will: only use their official school email account and connect to the school network using their school laptop only. Staff members are unlikely to need to collect and/or share personal data. However, if it does become necessary, staff are reminded to collect and/or share as little personal data as possible online. All data collection will be compliant with GDPR guidelines.

Keeping Devices Secure

All staff will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. Computers should be locked if left inactive for a period of time. Operating systems must be up to date – always install the latest updates.

Links with other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection policy
- Data Protection policy and privacy notices
- ICT and internet acceptable use policy
- Online Safety policy

Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed and amended by the Leadership Team as and when updates to home learning guidance are provided by the government, or when the SLT, through evaluating the impact of the strategy choose to amend it. This policy will be reviewed in three years.