

William Reynolds Primary School and Nursery



Pupil Remote Learning Policy

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Statement of intent

At William Reynolds Primary School and Nursery, we understand the need to continually deliver high-quality education, including during periods of remote learning - whether for an individual pupil or many. We recognise the importance of maintaining high expectations in all areas of school life and ensuring that all pupils have access to the learning resources and support they need to succeed.

Through the implementation of this policy, we aim to address the key concerns associated with remote learning, such as online safety, access to educational resources, data protection, and safeguarding.

This policy aims to:

- Minimise the disruption to pupils' education and the delivery of the curriculum.
- Ensure provision is in place so that all pupils have access to high quality learning resources.
- Protect pupils from the risks associated with using devices connected to the internet.
- Ensure staff, parent, and pupil data remains secure and is not lost or misused.
- Ensure robust safeguarding measures continue to be in effect during the period of remote learning.
- Ensure all pupils have the provision they need to complete their work to the best of their ability, and to remain happy, healthy, and supported during periods of remote learning.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation, guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Data Protection Act 2018
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006
- DfE (2023) 'Providing remote education'
- DfE (2022) 'Safeguarding and remote education'
- DfE (2023) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE (2015) 'SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
- DfE (2022) 'Working together to improve school attendance'
- DfE (2022) 'Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools'
- DfE (2018) 'Health and safety for school children'
- DfE (2016) 'Children missing education'
- DfE (2020) 'Help with accessing and buying resources for remote education'
- DfE (2021) 'Get help with remote education'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Accessibility Policy
- Marking and Feedback Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- PSHE include RHE Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Attendance and Absence Policy
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the school has robust risk management procedures in place.
- Ensuring that the school has a business continuity plan in place, where required.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the school's remote learning arrangements.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff, parents and pupils adhere to the relevant policies at all times.
- Ensuring that there are arrangements in place for identifying, evaluating, and managing the risks associated with remote learning.
- Ensuring that there are arrangements in place for monitoring incidents associated with remote learning.
- Overseeing that the school has the resources necessary to action the procedures in this policy.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of this policy on an annual basis and communicating any changes to staff, parents, and pupils.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of remote education provision to identify strengths and areas for improvement in conjunction with the SLT, making use of and adapting where necessary the DfE's ['Review your remote education provision framework: schools'](#).
- Arranging any additional training staff may require to support pupils during a period of remote learning.
- Conducting reviews on a weekly basis of the remote learning arrangements to ensure pupils' education remains at a high level.

The Data Protection Officer is responsible for:

- Overseeing that all school-owned electronic devices used for remote learning have adequate anti-virus software and malware protection.
- Ensuring all staff, parents, and pupils are aware of the data protection principles outlined in the UK GDPR.
- Ensuring that all computer programs used for remote learning are compliant with the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- Overseeing that any ICT equipment used for remote learning is resilient and can efficiently recover lost data.

The DSL is responsible for:

- Attending and arranging, where necessary, any safeguarding meetings that occur during the remote learning period.
- Liaising with the ICT technicians to ensure that all technology used for remote learning is suitable for its purpose and will protect pupils online.
- Identifying vulnerable pupils who may be at risk if they are learning remotely.
- Ensuring that child protection plans are enforced while the pupil is learning remotely, and liaising with the headteacher and other organisations to make alternate arrangements for pupils who are at a high risk, where required.
- Identifying the level of support or intervention required while pupils learn remotely and ensuring appropriate measures are in place.
- Liaising with relevant individuals to ensure vulnerable pupils receive the support required during the period of remote working Ensuring all safeguarding incidents are adequately recorded and reported.

The SENDCO is responsible for:

- Liaising with the ICT technicians to ensure that the technology used for remote learning is accessible to all pupils and that reasonable adjustments are made where required.
- Ensuring that pupils with EHC plans continue to have their needs met while learning remotely and liaising with the headteacher and other organisations to make any alternate arrangements for pupils with EHC plans and ADPRs if necessary.
- Identifying the level of support or intervention that is required while pupils with SEND learn remotely.
- Ensuring that the provision put in place for pupils with SEND is monitored for effectiveness throughout the duration of the remote learning period.

The School Business Manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the school has adequate insurance to cover all remote working arrangements.

The SLT is responsible for:

- Reviewing remote education provision to identify strengths and areas for improvement in conjunction with the headteacher, as required.

The ICT technicians are responsible for:

- Ensuring that all school-owned devices used for remote learning have suitable anti-virus software installed.
- Ensuring that any programs or networks used for remote learning can effectively support a large number of users at one time, where required.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy at all times during periods of remote learning.
- Reporting any health and safety incidents to the health and safety officer and asking for guidance as appropriate.
- Reporting any safeguarding incidents to the DSL and asking for guidance as appropriate.
- Taking part in any training conducted to meet the requirements of this policy, including training on how to use the necessary electronic equipment and software.
- Reporting any dangers or potential dangers they identify, as well as any concerns they may have about remote learning, to the headteacher.
- Reporting any defects on school-owned equipment used for remote learning to an ICT technician.
- Adhering to the Staff Code of Conduct at all times.

Parents are responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy at all times during periods of remote learning.
- Ensuring their child is available to learn remotely and that the schoolwork set is completed on time and to the best of their child's ability.
- Reporting any technical issues to the school as soon as possible.
- Ensuring that their child always has access to remote learning material during the times set out in section 9.
- Reporting any absence in line with the terms set out in section 9.
- Ensuring their child uses the equipment and technology used for remote learning as intended.
- Adhering to the Parent Code of Conduct at all times.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy at all times during periods of remote learning.
- Ensuring they are available to learn remotely and that their schoolwork is completed on time and to the best of their ability.
- Reporting any technical issues to their teacher as soon as possible.

- Ensuring they have access to remote learning material and notifying a responsible adult if they do not have access.
- Notifying a responsible adult if they are feeling unwell or are unable to complete the schoolwork they have been set.
- Ensuring they use any equipment and technology for remote learning as intended.
- Adhering to the Behavioural Policy at all times.

3. Resources

Learning materials

The school will accept a range of different teaching methods during remote learning to help explain concepts and address misconceptions easily. For the purpose of providing remote learning, the school may make use of:

- Work pack/ booklets
- Email
- Educational Websites
- Purple Mash
- Bug Club
- Oxford Owl
- Times Tables Rock Stars

The school will review the DfE's [guidance](#) on where schools can source educational resources to assist with the delivery of remote education, and utilise these as appropriate.

Teachers will review the DfE's list of [online education resources](#) and utilise these tools as necessary, in addition to existing resources.

Reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure that all pupils have access to the resources needed for effective remote learning.

Teachers will ensure the programmes chosen for online learning have a range of accessibility features, e.g. voice-to-text conversion, to support pupils with SEND.

Lesson plans will be adapted to ensure that the curriculum remains fully accessible and inclusive via remote learning.

The school will review the resources pupils have access to and adapt learning to account for all pupils needs.

Lengthy or open-ended projects and research activities will generally be avoided, with the school prioritising more interactive, teacher-led approaches to delivering the school's

planned curriculum. Any teaching plans that involve lengthy or open-ended projects and research activities will be approved only if the headteacher is satisfied that they are likely to lead to strong progress or outcomes.

Work packs will be made available for pupils who do not have access to a printer - these packs can be sent home with the children, collected from school or home delivered.

Teaching staff will liaise with the SENCO and other relevant members of staff to ensure all pupils remain fully supported for the duration of the remote learning period.

The SENCO will arrange additional support for pupils with SEND which will be unique to the individual's needs, e.g. via weekly phone calls.

Teaching staff will implement more individualised planning, in liaison with the SENDCO, for pupils with SEND where appropriate - the SENDCO will also contact the pupil's parents to see how the pupil can be supported by adults while learning remotely.

Any issues with remote learning resources will be reported as soon as possible to the relevant member of staff.

Pupils will be required to use their own or family-owned equipment to access remote learning resources, unless the school agrees to provide or loan equipment. Pupils and parents will be required to maintain the upkeep of any equipment they use to access remote learning resources.

The ICT technicians are not responsible for providing technical support for equipment that is not owned by the school.

Teaching staff will oversee academic progression for the duration of the remote learning period and will mark and provide feedback on work in line with section 7 of this policy.

Food provision

The school will signpost parents via letter towards additional support for ensuring their children continue to receive the food they need.

Where applicable, the school may provide the following provision for pupils who receive FSM:

- Keeping the school kitchen open during lunchtimes
- Providing a packed lunch for collection, if requested by parents - contact with school can be made by calling 01952 388280
- Providing vouchers to families

Costs and expense

The school will not contribute to any household expenses incurred while pupils learn remotely, e.g. heating, lighting, or council tax.

The school will not reimburse any costs for travel between pupils' homes and the school premises.

The school will not reimburse any costs for childcare.

If a pupil is provided with school-owned equipment, the pupil and their parent will sign and adhere to the Technology Acceptable Use Agreement prior to commencing remote learning.

4. Online safety

This section of the policy will be enacted in conjunction with the school's Online Safety Policy.

Where possible, all interactions will be textual and public.

All staff and pupils using audio communication must:

- Use appropriate language - this includes others in their household.
- Maintain the standard of behaviour expected in school.
- Use the necessary equipment and computer programs as intended.
- Not record, store, or distribute audio material without permission.
- Ensure they have a stable connection to avoid disruption to lessons.
- Always remain aware that they can be heard.

The school will consider whether one-to-one sessions are appropriate in some circumstances, e.g. to provide support for pupils with SEND. This will be decided and approved by the SLT, in collaboration with the SENDCO.

Pupils not using devices or software as intended will be spoken to in line with the Behaviour Policy.

The school will communicate to parents via email about any precautionary measures that need to be put in place if their child is learning remotely using their own/family-owned equipment and technology, e.g. ensuring that their internet connection is secure.

The school will ensure that all school-owned equipment and technology used for remote learning has suitable anti-virus software installed.

During the period of remote learning, the school will maintain regular contact with parents to:

- Reinforce the importance of children staying safe online.
- Ensure parents are aware of what their children are being asked to do, e.g. sites they have been asked to use and staff they will interact with.
- Encourage them to set age-appropriate parental controls on devices and internet filters to block malicious websites.
- Direct parents to useful resources to help them keep their children safe online.

The school will not be responsible for providing access to the internet off the school premises and will not be responsible for providing online safety software, e.g. anti-virus software, on devices not owned by the school.

5. Safeguarding

This section of the policy will be enacted in conjunction with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, which has been updated to include safeguarding procedures in relation to remote working.

All teaching staff will be made aware that the procedures set out in the school's Staff Code of Conduct apply at all times during the delivery of remote education. Parents will be made aware of what their children are being asked to do, including:

- The sites that they will be accessing.
- The school staff that they will be interacting with.

The DSL and headteacher will identify 'vulnerable' pupils (pupils who are deemed to be vulnerable or are at risk of harm) via risk assessment prior to the period of remote learning.

The DSL will arrange for regular contact to be made with vulnerable pupils, prior to the period of remote learning.

The DSL will arrange for regular contact with vulnerable pupils once per week at minimum, with additional contact, including home visits, arranged where required.

Phone calls made to vulnerable pupils will be made using school phones where possible.

All contact with vulnerable pupils will be recorded on CPOMS.

The DSL will keep in contact with vulnerable pupils' social workers or other care professionals during the period of remote working, as required.

All home visits will:

- Have at least one suitably trained individual present.
- Be undertaken by no fewer than two members of staff.
- Be suitably recorded on paper and the records stored so that the DSL has access to them.
- Actively involve the pupil.

Parents of vulnerable pupils will be provided with a means of contacting the DSL, their deputy, or any other relevant member of staff - this arrangement will be set up by the DSL prior to the period of remote learning.

The DSL will meet (in person or remotely) with the relevant members of staff once per week to discuss new and current safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable pupils learning remotely.

All members of staff will report any safeguarding concerns to the DSL immediately.

Pupils and their parents will be encouraged to contact the DSL if they wish to report safeguarding concerns, e.g. regarding harmful or upsetting content or incidents of online bullying. The school will also signpost families to the practical support that is available for reporting these concerns.

6. Data protection

This section of the policy will be enacted in conjunction with the school's Data Protection Policy.

Staff members will be responsible for adhering to the UK GDPR when teaching remotely and will ensure the confidentiality and integrity of their devices at all times.

Sensitive data will only be transferred between devices if it is necessary to do so for the purpose of remote learning and teaching. Any data that is transferred between devices will be suitably encrypted or have other data protection measures in place so that if the data is lost, stolen, or subject to unauthorised access, it remains safe until recovered.

Parents' and pupils' up-to-date contact details will be collected prior to the period of remote learning. All contact details will be stored in line with the Data Protection Policy and retained in line with the Records Management Policy. The school will not permit paper copies of contact details to be taken off the school premises.

Pupils are not permitted to let their family members or friends use any school-owned equipment which contains personal data.

Any breach of confidentiality will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Safety Plan. Any intentional breach of confidentiality will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

7. Marking and feedback

All schoolwork completed through remote learning should be:

- Finished when returned to the relevant member of teaching staff.
- Returned on or before the deadline set by the relevant member of teaching staff.
- Completed to the best of the pupil's ability.
- The pupil's own work.
- Marked in line with a positive comment and feedback

The school expects pupils and staff to maintain a good work ethic during the period of remote learning.

If there are problems submitting work on the school's remote platform or the work is not able to be submitted on the platform, pupils will use email to send work to teachers for review and feedback and screenshots can be taken and emailed as attachments. The school will also consider alternative options where appropriate.

Pupils are accountable for the completion of their own schoolwork - teaching staff will contact parents via email if their child is not completing their schoolwork or their standard of work has noticeably decreased.

Teaching staff will monitor the academic progress of pupils with and without access to the online learning resources and discuss additional support or provision with the headteacher as soon as possible. Teaching staff will monitor the academic progress of pupils with SEND and discuss additional support or provision with the SENDCO as soon as possible.

The school will log participation and pupil engagement with remote education, as well as motivation levels and progress. The school will consider ways to use feedback to secure consistent engagement with remote material.

8. Health and safety

This section of the policy will be enacted in conjunction with the school's Health and Safety Policy.

Teaching staff and ICT technicians will ensure pupils are shown how to use the necessary equipment and technology safely and correctly prior to the period of remote learning.

If using electronic devices during remote learning, pupils will be encouraged to take a five-minute screen break every two hours. Screen break frequency will be adjusted to five minutes every hour for younger pupils or pupils with medical conditions who require more frequent screen breaks.

9. School day and absence

Breaks and lunchtimes are necessary throughout the day.

A suggested timetable for breaks and lunchtime is below:

- Morning break will take place at 10:30am until 10:45am.
- Lunchtime will take place between 12:00pm and 12:45pm.
- Afternoon break will take place at 2:00pm until 2:15pm.

Pupils with SEND or additional medical conditions who require more regular breaks, e.g. sensory breaks, are not expected to do schoolwork during their breaks.

Pupils who are unwell are not expected to be present for remote learning until they are well enough to do so.

10. Communication

The school will ensure adequate channels of communication are arranged in the event of an emergency. The school will communicate with parents via email and the school website about remote learning arrangements as soon as possible.

All communication that takes place via email between staff and pupils will be done via school email addresses.

The headteacher will communicate with staff as soon as possible via email about any remote learning arrangements. Members of staff involved in remote teaching will ensure they have a working mobile device that is available to take phone calls during their agreed working hours.

The school understands that pupils learning remotely have the right to privacy out-of-hours and should be able to separate their school and home lives - communication is only permitted during school hours.

Members of staff will have contact with their line manager once per week.

As much as possible, all communication with pupils and their parents will take place within school hours.

Parents will inform the relevant member of staff as soon as possible if schoolwork cannot be completed.

Issues with remote learning or data protection will be communicated to the pupils' teacher as soon as possible so they can investigate and resolve the issue.

The pupils' teacher will keep parents and pupils informed of any changes to the remote learning arrangements or the schoolwork set.

11. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the headteacher. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff and other stakeholders.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is February 2025.