Summer 2021

REMOTE LEARNING STRATEGY

INTRODUCTION

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What is remote learning?

Remote learning is an approach that ensures that a school provides learning that is both suitable and supports children to work both in and out of the school building.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools have had to respond to the current situation, whilst ensuring they are developing strategies that ensure that children can have access to learning material and support from teachers, developing contingency plans in case pupils, or staff have been asked to self-isolate at home, whilst still in good health to continue teaching and learning.

What will remote learning look like at Redwood?

At Redwood, we have developed a strategy to improve our remote learning offer to all pupils. Through a blended approach and via an online learning platform, children will be able to access learning set by teachers; communicate with their teacher and take parts in lots of different learning activities. This Document will guide you through all the considerations and information needed to understand more about remote learning at Redwood.

CONTINGENCY PLANS

The following will highlight the relevant contingency plan in the event of a student/group of students/full class of students or teacher has to isolate at home:

Plan A

Concern: Individual student, or part of a bubble needs to self-isolate, but the rest of the bubble and school is still open.

Resolution: Teaching staff will update the learning platform with the work that students are completing in school. The student's teacher will make contact through the learning platform and keep in touch with the student during their absence from school. Whole school celebrations, letters and communication will be passed to the student and/or parent/carers through the school's learning platform.

Plan B

Concern: Entire bubble needs to self-isolate, but the rest of the school is still open.

Resolution: Teaching staff will plan and upload work for all students to complete during the period of isolation. Student's work will be in-line with the curriculum overviews as though they were in school. Students will be able to contact their teacher daily. The class teacher will keep in contact, through the learning platform for all students. The class teacher will review and feedback on work that has been completed. Our pastoral team will contact parents/carers from school if their child is not engaging with learning at home. Whole school celebrations, letters and communication will be passed to the student's and/or parent/carers through the school's learning platform.

CONTINGENCY PLANS

Plan C

Concern: Individual teacher's needs to self-isolate, but the student's in the bubble still access school.

Resolution: School will ensure that students have an appropriate professional in the classroom, in place of the teacher. Work set will either be planned for by the replacement adult in the classroom or will be set remotely by the teacher. Learning will be shared with students in school by the class teacher remotely, this may be through live teaching, pre-recorded teaching or other teaching strategies. This ensures that the learning the students receive is planned for by their substantive teacher, who knows the student's best.

Plan D

Concern: There are local or national restrictions that mean most students need to stay at home, like during the initial school closures in March.

Resolution: Teachers will provide extensive learning opportunities on the school's remote learning platform. Communication between school and home will be regular. Work will be reviewed and feedback will be given on a daily basis. Support will be put in place for parents for home learning.

LEARNING PLATFORM

For students in the Experiential Bases, learning at home will be heavily scaffolded by adults. Teachers and staff will upload activities and communicate with parents/carers through the YouTube online classroom or website. YouTube has been used by the school for many years and we will continue to develop its effectiveness as part of our blended learning approach.

Below, is a QR code which will take you straight to Redwood's online classroom page.

YouTube

For students in Main School Body, Skills for Independence and REEC, a learning platform has been established through Microsoft Teams. Through this platform, students will be able to access online form group areas, where adults in school will set and distribute assignments to all pupils. Some work will be online instruction, this means that students will get an instruction from a form teacher and will be able to complete this away from the computer/device. Other activities, will be completed online, either live or pre-recorded within their online form groups or through other websites.

Microsoft Teams

Navigation of the platform will initially need to be supported by an adult at home, particularly for our younger students. As the student's IT abilities advance, the more independence they will have with the learning platform.

As part of our platform, students/parents/carers will be able to communicate with teachers, they can open up a chat and ask them a question. Teachers can drop personal messages to each student or post a message to the entire class.

SUPPORTING WEBSITES

A full and comprehensive guide has been created to help support all adults and our students to get the most out of this learning platform.

[Link documentation/website link for Teams Booklet]

Through Microsoft Teams, students will be able to access websites that school have subscribed to. Students can also directly visit these websites. The QR codes below will take you directly to the websites. All pupils have secure passwords and personalised usernames. These can be found in their copies of the Remote Learning Agreement.

Bug Club

Bug Club is the only whole-school reading programme that brilliantly combines an online reading world with fantastic print books, and assessment tools.

MyMaths is an interactive online teaching and homework subscription website for schools that builds pupil engagement and consolidates maths knowledge.

prodigy

Engage is an interactive online game where students can explore the Prodigy Math Game world, they can answer math questions, complete epic quests and earn in-game rewards.

THINK U KNOW .co.uk

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a U organisation which protects children both online and offline.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding the children at Redwood both on and off site is of the highest priority.

When working online and at home, we all still have a responsibility to ensure students are as safe as possible. A Remote Learning Agreement will be accessed every time students are accessing any apps/websites in school. This agreement will contain their personal log in details and an agreement of their role when learning online. Students will have a copy of the same document at home, for adults to ensure passwords are safe and for adults and students to be clear of their roles for our blended learning approach.

Appropriate restrictions have been put in place, so that calls and chats can only be made to teachers and no other students.

Similarly, students will not have the ability to set up a video call with other children. Adults will continue in their role to pass on any safeguarding concerns in line with the school's safeguarding policy, which can be found at:

If anyone has a concern about a child's safety, they must forward this immediately to one of the School's Designated Safeguarding Leads.

At Redwood, these are:

Clare John, Head teacher who can be contacted by emailing:

head@redwood-school.com

Sinead Walsh, DSL who can be contacted by emailing:
sinead.walsh@redwood-school.com

Jo Connor, Deputy DSL who can be contacted by emailing:

jo.connor@redwood-school.com

INCLUSION

Redwood School continues to be dedicated in offering all students a high-quality core offer of learning. Quality first teaching will continue remotely, in the event of any isolation period. Work will continue to show differentiation and will ensure that all children are accessing a broad and balanced curriculum. This will continue to evolve as blended learning develops over time.

Differentiation - For those students who receive additional support within school, this will continue to be planned into work through the online learning platform and will reflect the level of personalisation required that reflects the practice that they experience in school.

Behaviour – In line with the Remote Learning Code of Conduct, children will be expected to meet the school's behaviour expectations and should ensure that they following the Redwood values of:

- Wow
- Community
- Respect
- Interactions
- Independence
- Effort
- Determination

Attendance - Pupils are expected to 'attend' and complete work on a daily basis, as though they would be in the school building. If children are unwell, adults need to inform school in line with the school's attendance policy.

Accessibility – A parent questionnaire has taken place to ensure that we are aware of the accessibility to the internet and devices at home in the event of self-isolation. If circumstances change, please can you inform school of this.

Reading - Within our learning platform, students and adults can utilise the Immersive Reader option, which allows all correspondence from school to be read aloud. Preferences also allow text to be translated into any language; a colour overview to be. The step-by-step guide goes through the steps in order to access this.

PARTNERSHIPS

For Blended Learning to be successful, partnerships are key to ensure that all children get what they need if they are at home for a period of time that is beyond their control.

A Remote Learning Code of Conduct has been developed to highlight the roles and responsibilities of the school, adult, and student.

When isolating, students should still continue to learn and access everyday learning material. By working in partnership, teachers, adults and students themselves can ensure that all pupils continue to make progress during these testing times.

Communication at all levels is crucial to support every child's learning. Through our learning platform, adults at home can communicate with their student's teacher through the chat facility. This is a private way of communicating without other members of the form being able to see.

On the learning platform, there is a section where students and adults can post. This is public to the form and needs to be reflected in terms of the content that is posted.

As a parent/carer, you can request, through the chat for a call to be made. Teachers will call through Microsoft Teams. These conversations should be focussed around the student's learning.

In the event that students are not engaging in learning whilst not in the school building a welfare call or text message will be made to see if there is any support that can be put in place.

All staff at Redwood are committed to help improve the quality of education any student receives. If you are concerned about your child's learning, please communicate through their class teacher in the first instance.

FAQS

Q: Are staff going to be delivering 'Live Lessons'?

A: Depending on different factors, teachers may or may not teach remotely. Through our platform, teachers may teach live to the children in addition to pre-recorded teaching tasks, video and audio instructions or written tasks.

Q: How do I download and log into Microsoft Teams?

A: There is a comprehensive step-by-step guide that outlines how to access the learning platform and how to use the functions within the programs. This can be found on the school website under 'Remote Learning'.

Q: Should we change the passwords?

A: We ask that all passwords are the same as the ones that are given. These are stored centrally and securely so that we can control the data in line with GDPR guidance. If there has been a data breach and passwords need changing, please request this through the school office at office@redwood-school.com.

Q: If my child is off, is there a way they can join in with 'school life'?

A: Through Microsoft Teams, your child will have access to their form team for all the learning they will need. Their year group/key stage SharePoint for any Key Stage celebrations and assemblies then a whole school SharePoint where assemblies, whole school celebrations will be shared to hopefully reduce the feeling of being left out of Redwood life if a child is not in the building.

Q: I am struggling to access learning online. What can I do?
A: There are many options. If you can get online and access the chat function, please bring this up with your child's form teacher privately. We also have an idea identified on the website where you can seek IT support by filling in a simple form. If not, please phone the school office and we will do our best to solve the situation and provide options to ensure your child continues to learn at home.