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West Norfolk Academies Trust Primary Home Learning Policy

Introduction

At West Norfolk Academies Trust Primary Schools we are committed to ensuring our children continue to learn and grow if the school has to undergo enforced temporary closure due to government and/or public health guidelines related to COVID 19. We want home learning to be a positive experience for pupils, linked as closely as possible to classroom work and our knowledge-rich curriculum.

Home learning allows parents, carers and the school to work in partnership for the benefit of their child, both their learning and wellbeing.

This policy outlines the procedures and practice for pupils during a school closure. It also outlines practice for staff during a closure who are fit and healthy and able to continue with setting work, marking and monitoring work and feeding back on pupil progress.

Aims

During home learning we aim to:

- Reinforce skills which have been taught in school and give children the opportunity to practise what they have learnt
- Instil in all pupils the importance of life-long learning
- Continue to promote learning new knowledge through our knowledge-rich curriculum
- Use Class Dojo as an online platform for children to share work and teachers to monitor progress
- Provide learners with a suggested timetable
- Update our school website regularly with additional resources and online links
- Continue to use online resources for specific year groups eg. SATs Companion, myON

We also recognise that all children need leisure time and encourage a balance between consolidating learning and enrichment activities. Our website contains links to online safety activities, suggestions for staying active and other wellbeing support services.

Overview

Each day teachers will upload an English, Maths and foundation subject lesson onto Class Dojo. Children will be expected to complete the lesson and upload a photo of the work into the designated Dojo Portfolio which teachers will monitor. Parents will be able to view their child's portfolio and teachers are able to give feedback using this online platform. If a teacher is in school teaching key worker children then it may be a different teacher from the school communicating with your child or pupils may be asked to follow lessons from Oak National Academy. We will continue to assess the children using our assessment schedule.

Our Curriculum

In the case of a partial or whole school closure we will continue to use lessons from our curriculum to teach children remotely. Lessons will be uploaded via Class Dojo, this may be in the form of Microsoft Word documents, power points, PDFS or links to short video clips. Our pupils are very enthusiastic about our curriculum and we hope in continuing with it during a lockdown, pupils will be engaged with learning at home. Work produced should be uploaded into a designated Class Dojo portfolio for monitoring.

Class Dojo

A letter outlining the role of Class Dojo is sent out at the beginning of the year and those families not connected is monitored immediately so the school ensures all families are connected as soon as possible.

Each child will be given set pieces of work to complete each day. Teachers will upload information about work onto their classes Class Dojo Story. A Dojo Portfolio will then be set up in which children are expected to upload a photo of the work set. Teachers may upload worksheets as a guide for presenting work but children will be able to complete work in an exercise book or on paper, rather than printing out multiple sheets. Sometimes a task might ask the child to carry out an experiment; growing seeds, making a model, ordering weights. These would need to be photographed and uploaded onto Class Dojo for teachers to see.

Teachers will monitor children's engagement in activities and their understanding by viewing the work in Dojo Portfolios. Teachers will use a Google Drive spreadsheet to record work that they have seen. If work is not uploaded, the class teacher will contact the family to see if they need additional support. If work is repeatedly not completed a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact the family.

myON

Children will continue to have access to MyON during school closure. This will provide children will access to thousands of digital books that can be read on computers, laptops and other devices. MyON caters for primary and secondary pupils and therefore please monitor the books your child reads as you would with any other online device. Children set their own interests, have the option to hear a book read aloud, make notes and use the dictionary to support students reading at all levels. MyON monitors their reading level to ensure books are well matched and teachers will track reading and progress.

Oak National Academy

Oak Academy may be used to supplement our curriculum if a class teacher is in school teaching key worker children or is ill themselves. It is an online classroom which provides daily lessons across all subjects for every year group. If children are required to use Oak Academy, they will be expected to access it every day and upload photos of their work on Class Dojo to ensure the class teacher can continue to monitor the progress of each child.

Online Expectations

Staff, pupils, parents and carers must follow our ICT code of conduct when writing on Class Dojo stories, portfolios and messages. Online platforms that are used to support learning (MyON, SATs Companion, etc) will be monitored by parents as with another other online platform that children may use. Marking, feedback and monitoring will happen regularly on Dojo but messages sent by parents after 5pm will not be responded to immediately.

The role of teachers in supporting pupils

Each day teachers will upload an English, Maths and foundation subject lesson onto Class Dojo. Teachers will monitor the work uploaded and track progress. We will continue to assess the children using our assessment schedule. If a teacher is in school teaching key worker children, then it may be a different teacher from the school communicating with your child about their work or pupils may be asked to follow lessons from Oak National Academy. Once a week the class teacher make contact with parents and pupils personally. If the class teacher is in school with key worker children or is ill, it will be a different member of staff that makes contact.

The role of parents in supporting pupils

Parents will be encouraged to:

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do their work
- work with the child on activities set when appropriate
- show the child that they value home learning and support the school
- encourage their children and praise them for completing their work
- contact the class teacher if there are any concerns

Inclusion

All children will have access to home learning that is relevant to their current stage of their learning.

If you have no internet access and will require paper copies of work please contact the Headteacher.

Equal opportunities

All children are provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity.