

Fen Ditton Remote Learning Principles and Expectations

Remote education is a broad term encompassing any learning that happens outside of the classroom, with the teacher not present in the same location as the pupils. **Digital remote education**, often known as online learning, is remote learning delivered through digital technologies. At Fen Ditton we deliver remote education through a variety of ways, using the Google Classroom learning platform to promote both online learning and practical or creative learning activities away from technology.

Each school has its own school context and approach to supporting its pupils. We currently have 27% of our pupils attending school, which is far higher than most secondary schools, who have on average about 6% and can focus more on the pupils' remote learning

We believe it is right that both the children in school, and at home, receive support from both teachers and teaching assistants. This isn't the case in some schools, with only teaching assistants being used in these schools. Our teachers are timetabled currently to be in the classroom and provided some non-contact time both in school and at home to support remote learners.

We have adopted some blended learning (a mix of face to face and remote methods) in school and some live or recorded teaching with a range of independent activities for pupils at home.

All of our remote education is aligned to the classroom curriculum as much as possible. As you will be aware, we provide a daily schedule to give you the broad overview of the learning for the day. This is particularly useful for parents to know and check what your child has been learning that day or to set them up for the following day.

Although teachers will strive to make learning motivating and enjoyable for pupils, producing excellent visual resources, this isn't always possible or practical through online learning. The most important thing is that children **know and remember more**, and therefore, sometimes simple resources and tasks might be the best thing for a particular lesson. We are very conscious that children will be experiencing a lot of screen time and teachers will endeavour to provide tasks away from electronic devices as well.

We will always try to put wellbeing of pupils and parents first, so please get in touch of your child or you are finding things difficult and we will do our very best to support you. The wellbeing of staff is equally important and we would like to point out that on occasions a teacher may be unwell, and remote learning lessons will need to be covered by someone else temporarily. If this happens please accept that the content for that day(s) might look very different as other teachers might need to cover two classes at the same time.

We feel the importance of the school community should be promoted too, and that is why there are whole school themed weeks, news and celebrations shared in Mr Askew's classroom.

Ofsted have indicated that live teaching is not the *gold standard* of remote education. It has its place and can support social interactions and hold attention better for pupils, but it has some downfalls too, particularly for families with many siblings and few devices. Sometimes connections can be lost, either for the teacher or for an individual family. Recorded teaching sessions do allow pupils to watch the clip many times and therefore supports pupils' understanding better. Recorded videos by teachers can also allow teachers to consider exactly what messages they want to get across and provide effective feedback. We know from our experiences, that pupils are particularly pleased seeing their teacher either way. As teachers are both in school teaching, as well as planning and

delivering lessons for remote learners, it is impossible to provide live teaching all day, and as we've explained this isn't always the best way.

At Fen Ditton some teachers are trying some short live teaching sessions in the day, while others are providing regular recordings. In other cases, we are providing small group or one to one live sessions to target SEND needs or provide interventions to close learning gaps. We will approach you if we think your child can be supported in this way.

As well as the curriculum content and delivery being important, so are the development of pupils' **attitudes to learning**. Sometimes learning isn't easy, and it can be a challenge for any of us to complete a task. We really believe in developing children's resilience and independent learning, and during this period it is a great opportunity to support these skills. However, we also require parents help to promote good learning behaviours and modelling processes to your child(ren) how you go about overcoming challenges. Please don't be afraid (pupil or parent) to ask for help from your teacher.

The most important this is that children are **engaged** with their learning. We will be checking regularly to see if work is being completed. Teachers do not have the capacity to respond to every piece of work or every child at the same time, but will be using their professional judgement and providing feedback as best as they can.

Please don't hesitate to provide feedback to your child's class teacher about the remote learning provision, both positive things and suggestions to improve, as we too are on a journey with this.

Mr Askew and Fen Ditton Staff