



# Netherthorpe School

## Remote Learning Policy

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<b>Reviewed By</b>	
<b>Next Review Date</b>	

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## **1. Introducing our Remote Learning Policy**

- 1.1. 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, especially when they are unable to attend school in person.
- 1.2. Our Remote Learning Policy lays out the responsibilities of each of the members of our school community in relation to the provision of remote learning capability to our pupils and details the practical and operational matters associated with this provision.
- 1.3. Its aims are to:
  - Set out a framework for the effective operation of Remote Learning within our school.
  - Set out our expectations for all members of the school community with regards to remote learning.
  - Ensure robust safeguarding measures continue to be in effect during the period of remote learning.
  - Ensure staff, parent, and pupil data remains secure and used in line with Data Protection regulations.
- 1.4. Our Remote Learning Policy will necessarily change in line with changing events, technologies and methodologies and as such will be regularly revised. Any changes will be communicated via our website and using our regular communication channels.

## **2. Scope & Responsibilities**

- 2.1. This Policy applies to all staff (including temporary staff, consultants, governors, volunteers, and contractors, and anyone else working on our behalf), pupils, parents and carers.
- 2.2. All staff are responsible for reading and understanding this policy before carrying out tasks relating to remote learning, and for following this policy, including reporting any suspected breaches of it to the appropriate Senior Leader.
- 2.3. All leaders are responsible for ensuring their team read and understand this policy before carrying out related tasks, and that they follow this policy, including reporting any suspected breaches of it.
- 2.4. Our Board of Trustees, Head of Academy, Senior Leadership Team, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), SENDCO, IT Staff and Data Protection Officer (DPO) are responsible for dealing with breaches of this policy, including suspected breaches, identified risks, and monitoring compliance with this policy.

## **3. The legal framework**

- 3.1. Relevant legislation, statutory instruments, statutory guidance and Department for Education guidelines are detailed below:
  - Equality Act 2010
  - Education Act 2004
  - The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
  - Data Protection Act 2018
  - DfE (2020) 'Keeping children safe in education'
  - DfE (2019) 'School attendance'
  - DfE (2017) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
  - DfE (2018) 'Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools'
  - DfE (2018) 'Health and safety for school children'
  - DfE (2016) 'Children missing from education'

3.2. The latest Government guidance can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

3.3. This Policy operates in conjunction with school policies including:

- Accessibility Plan
- Attendance Policy
- Behavioural Management Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Home School Learning Agreement
- CLT- Staff Code of Conduct
- CLT-Data Protection and GDPR Policy and associated Privacy Notices
- CLT- Acceptable Use of IT, Internet, Smart Phone and Electronic Communication Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- CLT- On line Safety Policy
- CLT-Retention and destruction policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Video Conferencing agreement

3.4. The content of this section is not exhaustive, and these provisions are subject to continuous development.

## **4. Learning**

4.1. We believe it is in the best interest of children engaging in remote learning to provide structured and sequenced remote learning, replicating their classroom experience as closely as possible, however we recognise that switching to remote learning will affect pupils and their families in a number of ways.

4.2. The learning methods selected will be based on:

- Being realistic and focusing on what is most important, recognising that remote learning can be more difficult for many pupils and providing appropriate support.
- Allowing flexibility in the completion of activities, understanding that families may have more than one child sharing home resources and that workspaces may be shared with multiple family members, including by designing activities that are accessible for all pupils, including those working offline.
- Ensuring remote education practices are inclusive including by tailoring the remote curriculum for pupils with SEND

4.3. We will use a range of delivery methods including:

- Directed online learning - Sign-posting to online learning resources
- Hard copy learning -Provision of hardcopy resources to complete offline
- Remote live lessons -Lesson delivered to camera; pupils log in to a platform to participate.
- Remote pre-recorded lessons - Staff delivery of lessons to camera (with no pupil presence) and made available to pupils online to access in their own time
- Synchronised learning - Staff delivery of lessons with both in school and remote pupil attendance

## **5. Resources**

- 5.1. The school will provide a combination of teaching and learning resources to support remote learning including, but not necessarily limited to:
- Work booklets
  - Projects
  - Past and mock exam papers
  - Current online learning portals
  - Educational websites
  - Reading tasks
  - Remote learning platforms and tools
  - Pre-recorded video or audio lessons

## **6. Equipment**

- 6.1. Pupils will need to use their own or family-owned equipment to access remote learning resources, unless the school agrees to provide or loan equipment, e.g. laptops.
- 6.2. For pupils who cannot access digital devices at home, we will, where possible, apply for support from the government to provide devices.
- 6.3. If a pupil is provided with school-owned equipment, the pupil and their parent will need to sign the Laptop loan agreement form on receipt of the equipment.

## **7. Remote Learning Platforms & Online Learning Tools**

- 7.1. The Use of Remote Learning Platforms and Online Learning Tools is key to our ability to offer flexibility in our learning provision and offers the chance for greater efficiency, improved connectivity and collaboration between staff, governors and pupils, and flexible access to education for vulnerable and hard to reach children, supporting safeguarding and wellbeing agendas.
- 7.2. These tools will further support pupils who may currently be learning through Virtual Schools, or in hospital, to feel more integrated into the school community.
- 7.3. We will ensure that the platforms and tools we use are secure, maintain privacy and have enterprise level security.

## **8. Safeguarding**

- 8.1. Safeguarding and child protection remains as important in this environment as anywhere else, and staff members will apply the school's safeguarding guidance to remote learning, just as they would to classroom working - staff who become aware of any child protection concerns will continue to follow established safeguarding procedures.
- 8.2. We will adhere to all additional guidance on delivering learning for those children accessing provision at home
- 8.3. When working remotely, we will ensure that the current Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy along with any addendums is adhered to at all times.

## **9. Data Protection**

- 9.1. Data Protection remains as important in this environment as anywhere else, and staff members will apply the school's Data Protection Policies to remote learning, just as

they would to classroom working - staff who become aware of any data breaches will continue to follow established data protection procedures.

- 9.2. This includes maintaining the same high standards of data protection, when sharing events and lessons remotely, as we would sharing any other sensitive, personal or confidential data.
- 9.3. Recording individuals will generate personal data including pupil images, names, contributions, login and contact details and will be protected, processed and retained in the same way as all personal data, in line with the schools Data Protection Policies and Privacy notices and in accordance with our other policies.
- 9.4. The Data Protection Act, GDPR and our policies require us to assess the lawful basis for Data Sharing and the Data Protection suitability of providers of services/platforms, and this information will be published in our Privacy Notices.
- 9.5. We will carry out DPIAs of third party processors supplying remote and online learning and/or communications platforms and for any other processing deemed to require such.
- 9.6. We will follow our Acceptable Use of IT and Email policy when communicating with parents and pupils.
- 9.7. We will follow the procedures in our Data Protection Policy for recording, reporting and responding to data breaches, suspected data breaches and cyber security incidents.

## **10. Wellbeing**

- 10.1. In addition to safeguarding, pupil wellbeing is a significant consideration in our planning for remote learning.
- 10.2. We will ensure our remote learning curriculum factors in support for pupils' mental and physical wellbeing and considers differentiation in our pupils.
- 10.3. This includes scheduling regular breaks in teaching, recommending fresh air and exercise-based activities and by ensuring a reasonable balance between online and offline activities.

## **11. School & home communications**

- 11.1. Maintaining a sense of community with parents, carers and pupils is very important to us and we will provide regular communication to parents about any general measures that need to be put in place if their child is learning remotely.
- 11.2. During the period of remote learning, we will maintain regular contact with parents to:
  - Ensure parents are aware of what their children are being asked to do and when.
  - Reinforce the importance of children staying safe online.
  - Provide further information as the necessity arises.

## **12. School Responsibilities**

- 12.1. Each member of our school community plays a part in the safe and effective delivery of remote learning. These responsibilities are outlined below.
- 12.2. **Our Academy Trust 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 including to ensure that the curriculum remains fully accessible and inclusive to all.

### **12.3. Our Head of Academy is responsible for:**

- Ensuring the schools remote learning approach is effectively communicated to the whole school community and providing regular and timely updates as dictated by any circumstances relating to the invocation of a period of remote learning.
- Co-ordinating and monitoring the effectiveness of remote learning delivery across the school, including to ensure that the curriculum remains fully accessible and inclusive to all.
- Monitoring the security of remote learning systems, including data protection and safeguarding considerations.
- Overseeing that the staff and pupils have the resources and appropriate training necessary to ensure effective remote learning in accordance with this policy.
- Ensuring the relevant policies are available to the school community at all times.
- Ensuring that there are arrangements in place for identifying, evaluating, and managing the risks associated with remote learning, including putting procedures and safe systems of learning into practice, which are designed to eliminate or reduce the risks associated with remote learning.
- Ensuring that there are arrangements in place for monitoring incidents associated with remote learning.
- Managing the effectiveness of safeguarding measures through a robust system of reporting, investigating, and recording incidents.
- Ensuring that pupils identified as being at risk are provided with necessary information and instruction, as required.
- Managing the effectiveness of health and safety measures through a robust system of reporting, investigating, and recording incidents including that the relevant risk assessments are carried out within the agreed timeframes.
- Managing the effectiveness of data protection measures through a robust system of reporting, investigating, and recording incidents including the relevant Data Protection Impact Assessments are carried out prior to sharing pupil (or other high risk) information.
- Regular reviews of the effectiveness of this policy.

### **12.4. The Academy Trust Board and Head of Academy are responsible for liaising with the Data Protection Officer to ensure:**

- all staff are aware of the data protection principles outlined in the GDPR.
- all Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notices are updated to reflect remote learning platforms.
- that all learning platforms, apps, games, communication platforms, computer programs used for remote learning are compliant with the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 and where necessary, Data Protection Impact Assessments have been carried out.
- all staff understand and follow the procedures for data breaches

### **12.5. 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.

**12.6. 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 IHPs.
- Identifying the level of support or intervention that is required while pupils with SEND learn remotely.
- Arranging additional support for pupils with SEND which will be unique to the individual's needs.
- Ensuring that the provision put in place for pupils with SEND is monitored for effectiveness throughout the duration of the remote learning period.

**12.7. Our IT Staff are responsible for:**

- Reviewing the security of remote learning systems and flagging any security breaches to the Data Protection Officer.
- Overseeing that any ICT equipment used for remote learning is resilient and can efficiently recover lost data.
- Ensuring that all school-owned devices used for remote learning have suitable anti-virus software installed, have a secure connection, can recover lost work, and allow for audio and visual material to be recorded, where required.
- Ensuring that any programs or networks used for remote learning can effectively support a large number of users at one time, where required, e.g. undertaking 'stress' testing.
- Working with the SENCO to ensure that the equipment and technology used for learning remotely is accessible to all pupils and staff.

**12.8. Teaching & Learning staff are responsible for:**

- Ensuring pupils are shown how to use the remote platforms and other tools to be utilised in the delivery of remote learning.
- Create learning plans in line with this policy.
- Adhering to this policy at all times during periods of remote learning.
- Taking appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure in line with the ICT Acceptable Use Policy including by setting privacy settings on devices used to deliver or engage in remote learning to an appropriate level to protect themselves and the pupils/parents involved
- Reporting any safeguarding incidents to the DSL and asking for guidance as appropriate.
- Reporting any health and safety incidents to the health and safety officer and asking for guidance as appropriate.
- Reporting any Data Protection incidents to the DPO 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.
- Liaising with the SENCO and other relevant members of staff to ensure all pupils remain fully supported for the duration of the remote learning period.
- Reporting any defects on school-owned equipment used for remote learning to an ICT technician.
- Adhering to the requirements of the policies listed in section 3 including as they relate to remote learning.

## **Appendix 1: Pupil Code of Conduct / Behaviour Policy: Remote Learning Addendum**

### ***Introduction***

This addendum supplements the school's Behaviour management policy during periods of remote learning. If any conflict arises between this addendum and the school's Behaviour management policy this addendum shall prevail during such periods.

Pupils' must ensure they have read and understood the contents of this Code of Conduct addendum before engaging in tasks relating to remote learning and must adhere to this Code of Conduct at all times during periods of remote learning, including reporting any suspected breaches of it to the school.

### ***Pupils are responsible for:***

- Adhering to our acceptable use policy and video conferencing agreement (appendix 3/4)
- Taking care of their personal information.
- Not sharing their image or using their camera during live lessons.
- Ensuring that microphones remain are switched off unless permissions granted by the member of staff.
- Only accessing live events which are scheduled for their use and not attempting to access via any alternative accounts.
- Appropriate use of the chat facility in Microsoft Teams. This must be linked to questions directed by the member of staff and not used for personal use.
- Leaving a MS Teams lesson if a teacher is not present.
- Taking reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised access to devices that are being used to access remote learning.
- Ensuring the privacy of all individuals participating in events and lessons via video conferencing or other remote means, by not sharing any sensitive, personal or confidential data, this includes:
  - Not using the information / contact details / images obtained for any other purpose than learning.
  - Not copying (by means of screen grab, photo or other means) or recording any element of an online lesson and disseminating or distributing it in any way.
- Informing an appropriate member of school staff as soon as is reasonably practical if they become aware of a data security risk or breach.
- Informing an appropriate member of school staff as soon as is reasonably practical if they have worries or concerns about the wellbeing of any of their peers.
- Adhering to the Behaviour Management Policy and Online Safety Policy at all times.
- Ensuring they have access to remote learning material and notifying an appropriate member of school staff if they do not have access.
- Reporting any technical issues to an appropriate member of school staff as soon as possible.
- Ensuring they are available to learn remotely during the school day/ normal school timetable, and that their schoolwork is completed on time and to the best of their ability.
- Informing parent/carers as soon as possible if they are feeling unwell or if schoolwork cannot be completed for whatever reason, so they can inform the school office in line with the current Attendance Policy.

- Maintaining the upkeep of any equipment they use to access remote learning resources.
- If a pupil is provided with school-owned equipment, signing and adhering to the Laptop loan Agreement/acceptable use of ICT prior to commencing remote learning.

## **Appendix 2: Parental Code of Conduct: Remote Learning Addendum**

This addendum supplements the school's Home Learning Agreement during periods of remote learning. If any conflict arises between this addendum and the Home School Agreement this addendum shall prevail during such periods.

We believe parents can most effectively facilitate and participate in their children's remote learning by working in partnership with the school and staff.

As part of this partnership, parents are asked to support their child in adhering to the contents of the Pupil Code of Conduct: Remote Learning Addendum at all times during periods of remote learning.

We encourage parents to communicate any issues with remote learning, safeguarding, pupil welfare, well-being or data protection to an appropriate member of school staff as soon as possible.

For safeguarding purposes, parent/carers should not actively engage in any live lessons and should adhere to our video conferencing agreement.

Please understand that by allowing your child to log in and attend these sessions you are giving consent for your child to participate. If you do not wish for your child to take part in any live events please notify the school in writing.

If a pupil is provided with school-owned equipment, the pupil and/ or the parent will need to sign the Laptop loan agreement prior to commencing remote learning.

## **Appendix 3 Quick Reference**

### **Video Conferencing agreement**

This document sets out expectations relating to stakeholders (including students, parents or carers) joining a member of staff in a video conference.

The School hold video calls with stakeholders in order to ensuring that its services can continue remotely. To do this we must ensure that we follow data protection laws strictly and must remind stakeholders of their obligations to behave appropriately and respect the guidance set out in this notice (and by a member of staff during video conversations). Failure to follow this guidance may result in having to terminate the video call.

By continuing with the video conference, you agree to follow good practice including:

1. To behave appropriately, in the same manner as you would during a face-to-face meeting.
2. To ensure that only authorised individuals are present during the video call.
3. To keep matters discussed during the meeting confidential.
4. Do not record calls, take photos or screenshots on any device, without prior permission of the attendees.
5. Do not download, use or upload any material which is unsuitable within a School setting or that may cause disruption to the School network.

If you are in any doubt as to the expectations as specified above, please do not hesitate to consult with the school for further clarification.

The School may need to end the video call without notice, if you do not comply with the above provisions.

## Appendix 4 Quick reference

### Acceptable Use Policy for Students

The use of the School's ICT resources and services is a facility granted, at the school's discretion, to students. This Acceptable Use Policy is designed to ensure appropriate use of devices and the School's networks as well as ensuring students can benefit from using the School systems.

Use of the School network constitutes agreement to comply with this policy.

These rules apply to a student's use of the school network, whether using school computers or devices or using their own devices as a method to log in. This also applies to accessing the school network off site.

Students are given a user account to enable them to use of the network and by continuing to use the network, users must abide by the following: -

#### Student Terms of Use

- You are responsible for account access on the School network. Any unauthorised use of your account should be flagged to the School's ICT team immediately.
- Use of the school network is regularly monitored by the School's ICT team (which includes email access). The School will monitor any traffic over the School system to prevent threats to the School's network.
- You must not use someone else's username to gain access to the school network.
- You should not write down or share your password with anyone else.
- You are not permitted to share access details to the School's network or Wi-Fi password with anyone else.
- You must not attempt to circumvent security of any host, network or account, or penetrate security measures ("hacking") on or accessed through the School network.
- You must not probe, scan or test the vulnerability of the network or other networks.
- You must not try to install any software on School systems without permission from the ICT team. If software is installed without permission, it may cause extensive damage to the ICT systems and users could be held personally liable for any costs incurred in rectifying the damage.
- Any apps or software that are downloaded onto your personal device whilst using the School's network is done at your own risk and not with the approval of the School.
- You must not use the network or your own property to access or process inappropriate materials. This includes (but is not limited to) pornographic material, material which may be seen as violent, offensive or discriminatory, inappropriate text files, or files dangerous to the integrity of the network.
- You must not transmit, re-transmit, publish or store material or messages on or through the School network which could be perceived as bullying, threatening, abusive, hateful, indecent, harassing, offensive or defamatory.
- You must report any inappropriate messages or information immediately to the ICT team. This report will help protect other pupils and you.
- You are not permitted to access the School network using your own personal device, unless the device has been deemed acceptable to use by the School's ICT team.
- You must not record, video or take pictures of other students, staff or third parties whilst using School devices without express permission from a senior member of staff.
- Use of own devices is at the risk of the user. The School cannot accept responsibility for any loss, damage or costs incurred due to use, damage or loss whilst accessing the School's systems.
- Any property owned by students, such as mobile phones and iPads, may not be used to stream, download or watch videos.
- You may not access the internet except through the School network.
- Above all, you should be KIND ONLINE

If a student or user account breaches the above rules, their account may be inspected and their access stopped. A breach may also put you at risk of exclusion.