Itchen Abbas Primary School

Remote Learning Policy

At Itchen Abbas, we follow the recommended guidelines published in the DfE publication: Providing Remote Education (updated in August 2024).

'Attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including for their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Remote education should not be viewed as an equal alternative to attendance in school. For this reason, we expect schools to consider it only as a last resort when the alternative would be no education, and only after it has been established that the pupil is, or will be, absent from school. In such cases, remote education can have the benefit of allowing absent pupils to keep on track with their education and stay connected to their teachers and peers.'
(Providing Remote Education, DfE)

Itchen Abbas Primary follows non-statutory guidance by ensuring high quality learning where it is not possible to carry out face-to-face lessons.

Remote education is a short-term measure and a last resort when an individual pupil or a group of pupils are unable to attend the school setting.
Examples might include:

- occasions when school leaders decide that it is not possible for their setting to open safely, or that opening would contradict guidance from local or central government
- occasions when individual pupils, for a limited duration, are unable to physically attend their school but are able to continue learning, for example pupils with an infectious illness
- weather closures or utilities failure.

Time spent learning at home should reflect learning time within a school day.
Good practice is considered to be:
-3 hours a day on average across the cohort for key stage 1, with less for younger children
-4 hours a day for key stage 2

Work will not be set for children who are on an unauthorised absence, such as a term time holiday.

What should be provided?
Online video lessons do not necessarily need to be recorded by teaching staff at the school. High quality lessons developed by external providers can be provided instead of school led video content. At Itchen Abbas, we might refer children to lessons on Oak Academy and White Rose.

We often will use Spelling Shed, in addition to encouraging reading and times table practice, to support learning at home. Staff might provide work books and worksheets which can be reviewed when the child returns to school. The school will make regular contact with the family and where possible, the class teacher will offer feedback on the learning undertaken at home.

Provision for pupils with SEND
If pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are not able to be in school and require remote education their teachers are best placed to know how the pupil's needs can be most effectively met to ensure they continue to make progress.

We recognise that some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support. Schools should work collaboratively with families and put in place reasonable adjustments so that pupils with SEND can successfully access remote education. In this situation, decisions on how provision can be delivered should be informed by relevant considerations including the support families will require and types of services that the pupil can access remotely.

Who to contact?
If you have any questions or concerns around Remote Learning, please email the school office.

Monitoring arrangements
This policy will be reviewed as required in line with any changes by the Headteacher, it will be approved by the Resources Panel at each review.

Links with other policies:
This policy is linked to our:
- Behaviour and Positive Relationships policy
- Safeguarding and Child protection policy
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Home-school agreement
- ICT and e-safety acceptable use policy

Date ratified by Governors: February 2025

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Date for review: February 2027