



## **Remote Home Learning Policy**

This policy is about ensuring a shared understanding and agreement of what remote learning will look like for pupils at Heron. The main aims of remote learning at Heron are to:

- Keep the minds of our pupils active and happy, ready to return to school and engage with learning when the time comes.
- Ensure regular contact with all pupils and families.
- Provide a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources that is linked to the school's curriculum expectations.

Taking care of the physical and mental health of pupils, parents and teachers is crucial. The expectations of Remote Home Learning at Heron will be outlined below.

In the event of school closure or pupils having to remain at home, we will provide a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources. We are understanding of the fact that not all of our pupils will be able to access all the learning due to technology constraints, other pupils in the household, illness, family commitments or work commitments. We understand that many pupils will not work at home in the same way as they work in school. We do not expect parents to be teachers, especially in anxious times.

It is also important to understand that if teachers are required to work at home, they can only carry out a reasonable workload and this is negotiated with staff on an individual basis by the Senior Leadership Team.

If pupils have to work from home or our school is closed, pupils in KS1 and KS2 will be issued with work so that pupils have meaningful tasks each day in a number of different subjects. Curriculum overviews with links to activities relating to Foundation subjects will also be published on the school website. For pupils in Reception, tasks will be set using Dojo. For those without computer or internet access, Home Learning packs will be provided. We may (in some cases) be able to support with the loan of technology.

Teachers will provide frequent, clear explanations of new content through high-quality curriculum resources or videos, including the use of the Oak National Academy. These resources have been developed in partnership with a wide group of teachers and school leaders. The Oak National Academy is recommended by the Government's Department for Education to be used by schools nationally, in order

to support remote learning. Other website such as BBC Bitesize may also be used by staff to support the pupils with their work. Teachers will not live-stream lessons from their homes for both safeguarding reasons. Teachers may live stream from school if appropriate.

Answers to English and Maths tasks will be sent out so that pupils and parents can see how they have got on. Staff will comment on the pupils' work. Suggestions for improvement/ additional support will be offered, if required.

To support teacher workload and ensure a healthy work/home life balance, work should be submitted no later than 4pm and teachers are not expected to comment on work later than 5pm. Teachers will not be responding to work submitted at weekends.

Communication by teachers to pupils and parents can be made through official outlets such as Dojo and the school website. However, for confidentiality reasons, personal emails or numbers will not be used by teachers.

We understand that although some parents will be undertaking these activities daily, some will not be able to. We would like parents to engage with this learning at least once a week at a minimum and communicate with us via the appropriate channels. Class teachers will let the Assistant Headteachers know if a family has not made contact over a week and then the Assistant Headteachers will make contact with those families, to check on their welfare and safety.

In the event of school closure, teachers will make video calls to their classes via Zoom/ Teams to register the class and set the tasks for the day. Parents will have been made aware of the expectations of parents and pupils during such meetings.

Work and tasks will be set to suit the age range and capabilities of the pupils. Learning that can be done in bite-sized chunks is more likely to be completed than longer tasks.

Many pupils need a lot of guidance when working and cannot be left for long periods of time to complete complex tasks. Teachers will aim to provide activities that pupils can complete on their own (although pupils in Reception and some in KS1 may require adult help). We recognise that many parents may also be trying to work from home and parents might struggle to assist with schoolwork for a number of reasons. Parents cannot be expected to become teachers. We do not want to add to their stress levels and anxiety at an already difficult time.

As a school we have been working on approaches to improve long term memory with pupils. We will bring this work into our online teaching, sometimes setting work to

recap on work that we have previously completed as a refresher for pupils, not new learning as such. This supports brain retrieval practices and helps commit learning to the long term memory.

We will also provide learning that we believe will help pupils as they return to school e.g. handwriting practise, letter and number formation work, maths fluency; things to practise rather than new learning.

In the event of a partial or full closure of school, the teachers will arrange for hard copies (paper copies) of appropriate work for your pupil to complete while planning and preparations take place for online work to begin. This should take no more than 2 school days. Parents could also access the recommended Oak National Academy during this time.

*Our school website contains a list of web addresses that are regularly used in school by teachers and we would recommend to parents to use them for distance learning if we had to close. Parents can also find copies of suggested homework tasks for each term to compliment the topics/ themes being covered in class.*

