Remote Learning Policy

Document Name	Remote Learning Policy
Document written by	Liz Peacock
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Responsibility	Principal
Approved by	Trustees

*subject to any relevant changes in legislation or other appropriate guidelines

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1.0	29.9.20			
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'Start off children on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it.'

Proverbs 22:6

Our Vision

'Our trust aspires to ensure that everyone, no matter of faith, receives the opportunity they deserve to flourish as learners and as global citizens. Our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, in the curriculum provision, across our learning environments and in the quality of staff we employ, is all key to providing children and young adults with the very best start and preparation for life.'

Our Values

TOGETHERNESS ASPIRATION SERVICE

Introduction

During these times of uncertainty, staff across Vantage Academy Trust will continue to provide education and support to all our learners using remote learning when 'bubbles' close and/or when large groups of pupils are self-isolating. Where small individuals are self-isolating, Home Learning Packs will be given alongside links to school resources to support learning at home. All staff will use Seesaw as the learning platform to keep in contact with pupils in a professional and confidential manner with their class. Teachers will be able to schedule learning in a manner that does not overwhelm the children. Teaching and learning can be tailored, changed and updated as time progresses, allowing for replication of classroom activity to the best of our ability. In all communications, the well-being of all our pupils will take priority. Please see the 'Remote Learning Plan' for supporting pupils at home.

Flexibility of Learning

The Trust recognise that the circumstances that cause any 'bubble' or school to close will affect families in a number of ways. In our planning and expectations, we are aware of the need for flexibility from school, parents/carers and pupils:

- Parents/carers may be trying to work from home so access to technology as a family may be limited;
- Parents may have more than one child trying to access technology and therefore need to prioritise the needs of their children;
- Teachers may be trying to manage their own home situation if self-isolating with their own children;
- Systems may not always function as they should.

An understanding of, and willingness to adapt to, these difficulties on all sides is essential for success. Should parents/carers require support with remote learning or need to request paper Home Learning Packs, then they should contact school.

Remote learning for pupils that are not able to attend school due to self-isolation or needing to follow government guidelines

For the small number of individuals who need to self-isolate, school will provide a Home Learning Pack which will contain work that is pitched appropriately and relevant to the learning process of each individual. The pack will also contain links to online materials to support learning at home eg Oak Academy (the Governments virtual school) and BBC Bitesize. When returning to school, pupils are asked to return their Home Learning Pack so teachers are able to provide feedback to individuals. Should any support be needed, parents are encouraged to contact school.

Expectation Management

Vantage Academy Trust believe that it is in the best interests our all our children to continue to provide structured support to the best of our ability. Bearing in mind the need for flexibility, there will be no deadlines set for work, though we would encourage all of our pupils to structure their day so they can attempt the learning set by the teachers. Please see the 'Remote Learning Plan' for tips on how to study at home effectively.

Teaching staff will endeavour to:

- Share teaching and activities with their class through the Seesaw app and/or Home Learning Packs;
- Continue to teach in line with current planning that is in place throughout the school ensuring that learning activities are accessible to all learners including those with SEND;
- Lessons should be uploaded to Seesaw by 12.00pm on the first day of the 'bubble' closure;
- Plan a minimum 4 activities per day which will be a combination of basic skills, reading, maths, writing and IPC learning. As per the government guidance January 2021, Early Years and KS1 will have a minimum of 3 hours remote learning and KS2 a minimum of 4 hours remote learning;
- Continue to share the Learning Objective of the lesson with pupils so they are clear on the focus of the learning;
- Make sure that prior learning is shared online with all pupils;
- Where appropriate, record the teaching input for the lesson so pupils are able to use this to support their learning, ensuring that the recorded session takes place in an appropriate setting;
- Provide high quality feedback to remote lessons either through written responses to pupil's work and/or recorded voice feedback – both through the Seesaw platform;
- Accept that remote learning will have some challenges so activities given to pupils will be in smaller chunks as will be the case for printed Home Learning Packs;
- Keep in contact with pupils through Seesaw/Class Dojo/telephone (where appropriate);
- Reply to messages, set work and give feedback on activities during the normal teaching hours of 9.00am to 3.15pm allowing time for short comfort breaks and lunchtime;
- Allow flexibility in the completion of activities, understanding that each family will have different home circumstances;
- Take regular breaks to engage in other professional duties such as professional development meetings;
- Be mindful of safeguarding when working remotely and continue to follow the schools safeguarding procedures where appropriate;
- Seek support from school with the use of technology if required;
- If unwell, follow school policy so remote learning for the class can continue with the support of another colleague.

Children will endeavour to:

- Look after their own well-being whilst home learning, taking regular breaks – getting fresh air and exercise and maintaining a healthy balance between online learning and offline activities;
- Complete the activities set by their class teacher through Seesaw or the Home Learning Pack;
- Only send messages to the class teacher that link directly to their learning;
- Only access the materials shared by their class teacher;
- Read daily with an adult or independently.

Parents/carers will endeavour to:

- Support their child's learning to the best of their ability;
- Encourage their child to access and engage with Seesaw and/or Home Learning Packs;
- Refrain from screenshotting or copying information, messages or posts to share on social media or any other platform outside Seesaw;
- Contact their child's class teacher through the Seesaw platform or contact school via the phone/email;
- Check their child has completed the given activities at the end of the day and encourage the progress that is being made;
- Be mindful of mental well-being, encouraging regular breaks and exercise.

Printed Home Learning Packs will be available on request if access to the learning platform is not an option. Please contact the school office.