Remote Learning Strategy

The purpose of this policy is to reflect the changed circumstances brought about by Covid-19 and the significant increase in the use of technology to continue learning.

Plans for partial/full closure

We have devised a Remote Learning Strategy to reflect the changed circumstances brought about by Covid-19 and the significant increase in the use of technology to continue learning. This policy does not introduce any new concepts, rather, it specifically outlines the various applications used for the delivery of online classes remotely.

This new policy operates alongside all of our existing policies (T&L / Assessment Behaviour / Safeguarding) and may apply to:

- A student who is absent from school for a pre-agreed reasons e.g. taking part in a sporting tournament
- Student exclusion
- Students unable to attend school due to a period of advised self-isolation but who otherwise remain well
- An extended period of school closure or partial school closure.

This policy does not apply in situations such as:

- A student who absents themselves from school without prior authorisation from the school, with or without parental permission, e.g. a family holiday taken in term time
- A parental decision to absent their children as a precaution against an outbreak of infectious disease but contrary to official medical advice from Public Health England, the UK Government or the World Health Organisation.

Introduction

This document sets out the guidelines of the school in respect of use of technology for distance or remote teaching and learning.

Scope of this Policy

This policy covers any aspect of student remote learning (the provision of work, teacher support, assessment and feedback) as used by school staff.

In all cases students must use their @student.pchs.org.uk account to log in. Students are not to use any other account under any circumstances for the purposes of Remote Learning within the school.

The list of applications that will be used for distance learning will primarily be:

- Google:
    - Mail (e-mail)
    - Google Classroom
    - Google Meet (6th Form only for scheduled live lessons and students absent due to COVID)

There may be some additional applications that teachers may use, and the teacher will provide the student with the information required to access them.

Remote Learning at PCHS will take a blended approach and we recognise that households may not have sufficient computer access for all members of the family to use at any one time. Having carried out a survey of families and their access to laptops / computers in the household, we know that more than 50% of our families are sharing IT equipment within the home.

Where staff are isolating and fit to work from home, all lessons will have an allocated teacher. Staff may choose to deliver a pre-recorded lesson using ScreenCastify (any year groups) or deliver a live lesson.

Students should only communicate through their @student.pchs.org.uk account only. The use of any other account or e-mail address is expressly prohibited
Teachers will not engage in communications with any account other than an @student.pchs.org.uk.

**(Please note that tiers refer to DFE guidance.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-schools-can-plan-for-tier-2-local-restrictions/how-schools-can-plan-for-tier-2-local-restrictions)**

Remote Learning - Tier 1

Our approach to remote learning will be the following:

- Work will be set using Google Classroom. All students will have been given the codes to access each of their classrooms. Staff will upload work for each timetabled lesson
- Students are expected to complete the work set each day.
- Students absent for isolation purposes are expected to check in each day (before 8.50am) with their Form Tutor.
- Students are able to communicate with teachers using Google Classroom or gmail.
- Chromebooks on loan to students without IT access at home.
- All parents / carers of PP students contacted regarding access to FSM during the isolation period.
- List of students isolating is circulated with staff every day.

Remote learning - Tier 2 (Tier 2 asks secondary schools to adopt a rota system and to limit on-site attendance.)

- The school has purchased ScreenCastify to allow teachers to record lessons for students to access in order to support their learning and refer to later on.
- Live lessons will only be accessible for students in the 6th Form - this will be by arrangement with each class teacher. We recognise that families will be sharing IT equipment in the house and have prioritised the Sixth Form for any live teaching due to smaller student numbers and the need to additional teacher input on specific work.

- Some teachers may distribute work as weekly bulk assignments while others may do so as daily homework-style tasks.
- Students will be expected to complete and submit work to the class teacher - this will be assessed and returned.
- Students not accessing the work set will be contacted
- Students are expected to check in each day with their pastoral tutor - absences will be followed up.
- Face to face sessions to be used to consolidate, develop, assess and preview remote learning tasks
- Students are expected to check in each day with their pastoral tutor - absences will be followed up.

Remote learning - Tier 3 (Tier 3 requires secondary schools to limit on-site attendance to just vulnerable children and young people, the children of critical workers and selected year groups).

- Students are expected to check in each day with their pastoral tutor - absences will be followed up.
- Students not accessing the work set will be contacted
- Each subject area will set a task that needs to be submitted weekly this can take a variety of forms such as a quiz or an assignment

Remote learning - Tier 4 (Full school closure with only children of key workers and vulnerable students attending.)

In all cases the primary aim is to cover the required curriculum areas for their specific subject. The teacher will decide the most effective method to use to achieve this aim. Students should contact their teacher if they are having difficulty with any aspect of their subject or if they are finding the workload unmanageable. All lessons will be pre-recorded for students to access. Students are asked to follow their school timetable

Live Online Classes

Teachers may deliver some of the course "live" using Googlemeet where they deem this appropriate. Teachers will use visualisers within lessons to support students are isolating at home, but are well enough to attend lessons remotely.

In the use of Googlemeet:

- Students must always follow the direction of their teacher just as in the classroom
- Students are not to turn on their video unless directed to do so by their teacher
- Students are not to turn on their microphone unless the teacher invites them to do so. In any case, all microphones should be on mute when a person is not speaking to avoid distracting background noise being broadcast to everyone.
- A Googlemeet link is intended for the student only. The teacher will decide who should receive the link. Do not forward any link to anyone else.
- Disruptive students will be removed in order to allow those who wish to partake a fair chance to do so. Repeatedly disruptive students may receive a temporary ban from all online access.
- Lessons must not be recorded by students - staff may record these for future reference.

References

Education Endowment Foundation: Evidence about effective approaches to remote learning:
https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/best-evidence-on-supporting-students-to-learn-remotely
European Commission, School Education Gateway: European Commission (June 2020), *Blended Learning in School Education: guidelines for the start of the academic year 2020/21*. Provides guidance for policy makers, school leaders and teachers on blended learning:
www.schooleducationgateway.eu/en/pub/resources/publications/blended-learning-guidelines.htm
England
Oak Academy – online lessons covering reception through to Y10 (KS3) and specialist in England:
www.thenational.academy
Department for Education (DfE) list of online learning resources for English, maths, science, PE, wellbeing and SEND:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/remote-education-good-practice/remote-education-good-practice

OFSTED
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/whats-working-well-in-remote-education/whats-working-well-in-remote-education

Action	By whom	By when
Last Updated	Headteacher	October 2020