



Blended Learning Policy September 2020

Approved:	Autumn 2020
Signed:	
Date of Next Review:	Summer 2021

Rationale

This policy outlines St Mary's Church in Wales Primary School's intention to support Teaching and Learning both in school and through home learning during the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is the right of all pupils and members of the school community to have access to high quality learning, experienced through high quality teaching and we are committed to offering this through a blended learning approach while keeping in mind the wellbeing of our pupils, staff and all stakeholders.

Online Safety

Regardless of the current global events, it is important for staff to:

- * follow the normal school procedures and codes of conduct
- * only use school-authorized accounts/platforms (Microsoft Teams / Class Dojo / Hwb) and devices when corresponding with students and parents/carers
- * maintain professional boundaries on social media and avoid sharing personal mobile numbers or accepting or requesting students or parents/ carers as 'friends' on personal accounts
- * understand and follow our safeguarding procedures for disclosures and duty of care concerns.

It is recommended that staff:

- * revisit our online safety and acceptable use policies (a full copy is available to view and download from the school website)
- * reinforce pupils knowledge regarding how to stay safe online, including appropriate behaviour whilst online and communicating with staff and peers and share acceptable use agreements with them where necessary
- * model good practice when using technology.

Online behavioural expectations for staff

- * adhere to professional boundaries in terms of conversations with children and parents
- * ensure backgrounds are blurred where possible during online class video calls
- * when teaching using live videos, ensure child is not alone and a responsible carer is supervising, also ensure video chats are group based/class based, never 1:1
- * Ensure that another member of staff is present during the live session

Aims

1. To provide a link between home and school so that pupils and parents can share information, work and ask questions when needed.
2. To support all stakeholders and uphold our open-door policy remotely.
3. To ensure mental and emotional wellbeing is a key focus and integrated into our everyday practice.
4. To provide an on-line education using Class Dojo (FP) Hwb Classes and Microsoft Teams as the main resource; pupils are set work by their class teacher which encompasses the Four Purposes of the Curriculum for Wales.
5. To ensure coherence between in school and remote/home learning.
6. To provide alternative work for families not on-line or with limited access (or no access) to IT devices via home learning packs.
7. To provide feedback on work completed through Hwb Classes, Microsoft Teams or Class Dojo.

Support for Learners (including those in vulnerable groups)

We will ensure that all learners have equal access to school-based adults either through face to face contact or via online learning. Pastoral and communication systems will allow school staff to accurately identify families who may have increased or new vulnerabilities due to financial/health/wellbeing pressures as a result of the pandemic.

School staff will ensure that procedures are in place to allow all pupils to re-engage and interact in school life with a focus on enhancing learner's emotional, mental, physical and social well-being. We will implement a range of strategies to make effective use of the outdoors to support learning and wellbeing and pastoral and wellbeing support will be made available via our ELSA, Mrs Hart and Mrs Francis

Feedback from pupil groups will be used effectively to enhance learner experiences and ensure good levels of wellbeing, learner engagement and progress. Assessment will be a fundamental part of the learning process, and contribute to developing a holistic picture of the learner in order to identify and support their next steps.

Professional Learning for Staff

Staff will be encouraged and enabled to develop curricula that makes extensive use of the full range of online learning techniques, and move beyond just trying to solely emulate face-to-face teaching methods. Innovation and creativity will be well supported at all levels to ensure a rich and effective student experience. e.g teaching videos (asynchronous) so parents / pupils can access at a convenient time.

We will ensure effective mechanisms are in place for staff to share knowledge, practices and experiences with colleagues and allow effective practice to be shared and celebrated. Success is recognised openly and school's self-evaluation processes reflect evidence of effective practice. Staff will have access to appropriate practical guidance around online delivery and worthwhile online staff development opportunities will be available wherever they can improve delivery and accessibility.

We will ensure all governors understand the role of distance learning in order to effectively support and challenge the school leadership on their approach.

Live Stream Lesson Agreement

Teachers agree to:

- discuss roles and responsibilities with learners at the outset of all lessons
- notify the school's senior management team, learners and parents/carers of any scheduled lessons, cancelled lessons or changes in arrangements
- ensure that they keep themselves up-to-date with all relevant policies and procedures, including online safety, safeguarding and data protection policies
- prevent a one-to-one situation at the end of an online class by disconnecting all participants from Teams at the close of the lesson.

Learners agree to:

- be punctual for all lessons
- access the relevant files for each lesson in advance and have the materials to hand
- make sure they have all power adaptors and laptops ready before the lesson begins and are logged into the session
- show respect for everyone in the online classroom
- dress appropriately for all classes, thinking about respect for others
- ensure the location they log in from is appropriate, i.e. give consideration to background, camera angle, privacy, etc.
- seek to contribute to the class in a positive manner and not be disruptive at any time
- not share images of the class.

Equal Opportunities

All teaching and non-teaching staff at St Mary's Church in Wales School are responsible for ensuring that all pupils have access to the whole curriculum and opportunities to make the greatest progress possible in all areas of the curriculum whilst in our school.

Evaluation

This policy will be evaluated and reviewed by the whole staff on a needs basis, during the pandemic. They will work together to consider any changes necessary and adapt practice and policy accordingly as the school systems for pupil tracking skills develop and statutory tests are implemented.



At St. Mary's Church in Wales Primary School...

curiosity
determination

**ambitious, capable
learners**

independence
self-belief

thankfulness
responsibility

**ethical,
informed
citizens**

compassion
respect

friendship
forgiveness

**healthy, confident
individuals**

positivity
trust

creativity
courage

**enterprising,
creative
contributors**

perseverance
originality

we are aiming for all our children to be...

