Scoil na Fuiseoige

Remote Learning Policy

Remote Learning Introduction

This policy is available in English and in Irish. In the event of long term closure, staff at Scoil na Fuiseoige will continue to provide education and support to pupils using remote learning. The main points of this policy can be read below

* For pupils in Rang 1, 2,3,4, all learning will be conducted using the Seesaw Class app.
* Pupils in Rang 5,6,7 will use Google Classroom.
* Pupils in Rang 1 to Rang 7 will be provided with log-in details for Purple Mash Learning Platform.
* Contact with parents will be made in a professional and confidential manner with each pupil in their class using c2k email.
* 2 teachers are enrolled in each Class Digital Classroom in line with E-Safety Policy
* Teachers will plan for learning that does not overwhelm or concern pupils.
* Teaching and learning can be adapted and updated as staff, pupils and parents become more confident and experienced in their use of digital technology.
* The format and use of remote learning will adapt with the aim of reducing input and improving output.
* In all communications, we will adhere to our commitment to maintain pupils wellbeing.
* Remote learning is temporary measure and can never be a fully effective substitute for face to face teaching and learning.
* If given prior notice of a long-term school closure, teachers will work to provide hard copy/ paper home-learning package for pupils to complete at home

What is a Long Term Closure?

* A long term closure means that pupils cannot attend Scoil na Fuiseoige as a result of direction of DENI/ multiple staff having to Self-isolate due to Coronavirus. It refers to a period of time longer than a week.
* A long term closure may refer also to a one class bubble who have had to self-isolate for 14 days due to Guidance from PHO

Remote Learning Start Date 2020/21

During the month of September, teachers will set tasks and share learning material with children and parents. Contact details will be shared with parents, who will be encouraged to contact the class teacher if they have difficulties.

Home Learning codes for Seesaw or C2k and Google Classroom log-in details for children, have already been sent home. Parents and children have been encouraged to log in and use the learning platforms. Engagement will be assessed by the school principal and contact made with parents, offering support.

Integration of Remote Learning in Scoil na Fuiseoige

During the 2020/21 school year, Scoil na Fuiseoige is planning for and preparing to use Digital Technologies/ Learning platforms in the event of a long term closure or class bubble having to stay at home. Together with the risks associated with bringing learning materials to and from school, Scoil na Fuiseoige has consequently decided that home learning and homework tasks during 2020/21 will be set and completed using Digital Learning Platforms also.

Homework during 2020/21

* Teachers will spend 30 mins twice a week preparing work and correcting returned work.
* Rang 1, 2,3,4 will be using Seesaw Classrooms.
* Reading material will be shared links to E-Books or Videos
* In addition to reading material, 1 maths 1 literacy , 1 spelling/ Phonics list, and 1 other will be prepared and provided by the class teacher each week.
* Rang 5,6,7 will be using Google Classrooms
* Reading material will be sharedas links to E-Books or PDFS
* In addition to reading material, 1 maths 1 literacy, 1 spelling/ Phonics list and 1 other will be prepared and provided by the class teacher each week.

Flexibility

We realise that the circumstances that cause our school to close will affect families in a number of ways. In our planning and expectations, we are aware of the needs for flexibility from all sides: parents may be trying to work from home and so access to technology as a family may be limited; teachers may be trying to manage their home situation and the learning of their own children; systems be not always function as they should. An understanding of, willingness to adapt to, these difficulties on all sides in necessary for success.

Expectations

In the case of long term closure, we believe it is in the best interests of our pupils that we continue to provide support to the best of our ability. Bearing in mind the needs of flexibility, we understand that work may not be completed straight away and no deadlines will be set. That said, the work that pupils engage in during a period of closure will be part of our current planning and so cannot be considered optional.

During a lockdown School Closure ,teaching staff will:

* Share learning activities and materials with their class, through Seesaw or Google Classroom , so that children have learning tasks to do on a daily basis during closure.
* Continue teaching in line with current planning that is already in place throughout the school and/ or consolidate learning to date.
* Rang 1: Plan for and provide 1 literacy, 1 numeracy, 1 reading and 2 other lessons per week for pupils
* Rang 2, 3, 4: Plan for and provide 3 literacy, 3 numeracy, 1 reading, 1 spelling and 1 other lessons per week.
* Rang 5,6,7 Plan for and provide 5 literacy, 5 numeracy, 1 reading, 1 spelling and 1 other lessons per week.
* Mark and return work/ tasks after a suitable time, bearing in mind the need for flexibilty. If tasks have not been completed during this time, they will not be marked.
* Activities will be posted each m orning for the day ahead or may be posted in advance for the week ahead.
* Acknowledge that learning remotely will be difficult, so tasks will be shortened and supported in smaller steps to allow for this.
* Share their work email address with pupils and parents so that they can keep in contact.
* Reply to messages and set work/activities during normal teaching hours online: 8.55am – 2.55pm.
* Make allowances for learning and not set deadlines for completion on activities, understanding that the circumstances leading to our closure will affect families in a number of ways.
* Take regular breaks away from the computer or iPad to engage in other professional duties as much as circumstances allow.
* If unwell, teachers will notify parents and pupils using class digital learning platform.

Pupils will

* Be assured that pupil well-being is at the forefront of our thoughts and they should take regular breaks, get fresh air, exercise and maintain a reasonable balance between online engagement and offline activities.
* Potentially complete work the day after/ shortly after it has been set and be assured there are no deadlines.
* Only send messages that are about directly about the work they have been set.
* Only access the material shared by their teacher and ask for parental permission to use technology for anything beyond that.
* Read daily, either independently or with an adult.
* Consider using the closure time to learn a new skill, follow their own interests to find out more about the world around us or be creative.

Parents will

* Support their child’s learning to the best of their ability.
* Encourage their child to access and engage in work set by the teacher, including booklets and Seesaw.
* Only email the teacher with queries about the work that has been set.
* Not screenshot of copy any information, messages or posts to share on social media or any other platform
* Check their child’s work each day and encourage the progress that is being made.
* Be mindful of mental well-being of both themselves and their child and encourage their child to take regular breaks, play games, get fresh air and relax.