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**Remote / Blended Learning Policy**

Foley Primary School Ballymacnab

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Remote learning is where the children and the teacher are not physically present in the classroom.

The teacher provides information, lessons and activities through an online platform and children may or may not be able to return their work to the teacher. An effective home-school platform allows communication between the teacher and the children, in a managed and well communicated way.

Blended learning in its current guise as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic occurs when some children in a class may be at home participating in remote learning while some children are in school receiving face-to-face instruction from the teacher.

Possible scenarios during the 2020-2021 academic year.

* Whole class / school to isolate at home for a period of time.
* A number of the children in the class learning at home due to medical conditions or isolating due to Covid19.
* Online homework in place of traditional paper homework.

Whole class / school at home for a period of time.

If the whole class is to remain at home, then remote learning will take place provided the teacher is well. Mr McCrory will assume responsibility for the class if the teacher is unavailable.

If there are 2/3 days’ notice, then some paper copies of work will be made available to take home for those unable to access digital learning. This remains the preferred method as videos can be shared with teaching content.

* Messaging on Class Dojo will be available during periods of remote learning, only between 9am and 3.45pm each day.
* Teachers will upload one literacy, one numeracy and one other activity before 10am.
* We cannot assume that all parents will be at home, children may be at childminders or with grandparents so ensure that the children are aware of how to complete each activity.
* This could be done through text instructions or a video or audio recording.
* Children may send back their work to be marked throughout the day.
* The teacher should mark the work between 9am and 3.45pm.
* Any work sent back to the teacher after 3.45pm may not be marked until after 9am the next teaching day.
* It is important to monitor all children. Teachers will let Mr McCrory know if a child does not submit work 3 days in a row. There may be a good explanation for this. However, it is prudent for child protection and safeguarding reasons for Mr McCrory to call the child’s parents to ensure that family have support and advice if needed.
* The school will facilitate one live lesson each week on a selected day (parents will be notified at appropriate time). Live lessons will be carried out on Zoom.
* Zoom lesson invitations will be sent to a parental email address/Class Dojo account, by clicking on the link for zoom lessons, parents will be giving permission for their child to attend live lessons and therefore behave in line with normal school rules regarding classroom etiquette.

Some children in the class at home due to medical conditions or isolating due to Covid19 (remainder of class at school)

Children may have to stay at home for up to 14 days or more because of advice from the PHA due to Covid19 or because of an illness which requires them to shield. Parents may request work for them during this time.

* Teachers will not be available on Class Dojo from 9am – 3pm.
* Teachers will be carrying out their teaching duties for the day.
* Work will be sent home to children after 3pm each day for the next day
* Children will receive one literacy activity and one numeracy activity each day.
* This activity will be based on what the children in class were learning during the particular day/week.
* We cannot assume that all parents will be at home, children may be at childminders or with grandparents so ensure that the children are aware of how to complete each activity. This could be done through text instructions or a video or audio recording
* As all children complete Dojo Activities for homework during the 2020-2021 academic year, children who are learning at home should complete these as well.
* Due to the teacher completing their normal teaching duties, work that children send back to teachers may not be marked straight away but will be marked by the next evening.

Homework for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Due to the Covid19 guidance from the Department of Education in August 2020, it is recommended that as little paper as possible is sent from school to home and vice versa. Because of this, children will complete homework via Class Dojo.

To ensure good work/life balance for families and to enable children to participate in their pastimes and hobbies, children will complete only one piece of homework each night.

This piece does not have to be long or difficult.

Classes who have spellings/key words for homework.

Send spelling list home on Monday via Class Dojo.

Children have to learn spellings for test on Friday.

No spelling tasks at all unless it is the main piece of literacy homework.

Suggested homework list for the week.

Paper copy sent home with child and returned on Class Dojo.

**Monday** – Literacy/Numeracy.

**Tuesday** – Literacy/Numeracy.

**Wednesday** - Literacy/Numeracy.

**Thursday**- Literacy/Numeracy.

In Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Reading Book(s) to be sent home on Monday. Children bring books back in to school on Thursday.

Class Dojo information for parents.

At Foley PS we pride ourselves on ensuring excellent communication between home and school. As part of this we will be using Class Dojo as communication tools and also as a medium for home learning and homework.

Under GDPR if you sign up to Class Dojo you give your consent for your child to use Class Dojo. Class Dojo does not share any information with any outside organisations. Further information is available on the Dojo Website.

The school have made children aware of the Class Dojo guidelines for children, agreed by all children and staff. Children are reminded of these guidelines every week.

We have also developed a number of guidelines for parents.

* Talk to your children about appropriate icons and images to use for their profile picture.
* Parents should call the school if they need to send a message to the class teacher. If you send a message to the teacher, they may not see it as they are working with children throughout the day and may miss the message.
* Foley PS staff may not respond to any messages through Class Dojo. All communication continues to be carried out via the school office.
* Teachers will not use Class Dojo after 5pm each day during normal teaching days.
* Parents SHOULD NOT screenshot or share any information on social media or any other platform outside of Class Dojo..

Guidelines for children using Class Dojo.

* Post your work in a responsible and sensible manner.
* Do not change your name or any of your details which have been set up by your teachers.
* Your profile picture must be appropiate.
* Tell an adult straight away if you have any problems with the app or if something makes you feel uncomfortable. You can also tell Mr McCrory, Mr Carville, Mrs McGeough or your class teacher.
* Do not give your sign up details to anyone except for parents/carers.
* Only post up pictures of your homework sheets on Class Dojo.
* If you have to take a photo or video for your homework, please do it in a room with your parents/carers present.
* Show your homework to your parents/carers before you send it to your teachers.
* Content on Class Dojo should not be shared on any other apps or on social media.
* Anything that is done which doesn’t follow the guidelines above will result in parents/ carers being contacted.