



Naíscóil agus Bunscoil Bheanna Boirche

Remote Learning Policy

Remote Learning Introduction

In the event of long term closure or a class bubble isolating, staff at Bunscoil Bheanna Boirche, will continue to provide education and support to our pupils using remote learning. In this case, all learning will be conducted using Google Classroom for Rang 1-7 and SeeSaw for Naíscóil. This will allow staff to keep in daily contact, in a professional and confidential manner with each pupil in their class. Teachers will be able to schedule learning in a manner that does not overwhelm or concern our pupils. 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 we will adhere to our commitment to maintaining pupil wellbeing.

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 need 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 may not always function as they should. An understanding of, and willingness to adapt to, these difficulties on all sides is essential for success.

Expectations

In the case of long term closure, we believe that it is in the best interests of our pupils that we continue to provide structured support to the best of our ability. Bearing in mind the need for flexibility, we understand that work may be completed out of sync with when it is shared and as such, 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 as optional**. Pupils and parents should consider the arrangements as set out in this document as **highly recommended**.

Remote Learning Start Date

The first day of any extended closure will be used by teachers to prepare for the coming period and there will be no remote learning scheduled. The programme of remote learning will start from the second day of the period of extended closure.

Teaching staff will.

- Share teaching and activities with their class on a daily basis by 9.30am.
- Continue teaching in line with current, extensive planning that is already in place throughout the school.
- Give credence to the fact that learning remotely will be more difficult, so tasks will be shortened and supported in smaller steps to allow for this.
- Keep in contact with pupils through Google Classroom/ SeeSaw only.
- Reply to messages, set work and give feedback on activities during normal teaching hours only: **8.30am until 3:00pm.**
- Make allowances for asynchronous learning and will not set deadlines for completion of 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 themselves, be covered by another staff member for sharing of activities each day. Marking and follow up of messages during this time will not be undertaken until the teacher returns to work.

Pupils will...

- Be assured that wellbeing 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 work a day behind what has been shared through Google Classroom/SeeSaw, if it is only possible to access technology in the evenings. Learning can be downloaded and completed the following day.
- Only send messages and queries that are in relation to tasks set by the teacher or in response to questions the teacher may ask them directly.
- Only access the material shared by their teacher and will ask for parental permission to use technology for anything beyond that.
- Read daily, either independently or with an adult.
- Consider using the school closure time to learn a new skill, follow their own interests to discover 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 with Google Classroom/ SeeSaw posts from their teacher.
- Not screenshot or copy any information, messages or posts to share on social media or any other platform outside of Google Classroom.
- Know they can continue to contact their class teacher as normal via email if they require support of any kind. **Responses to emails will only be between school hours 8.30am – 3.00pm**
- Know they can continue to contact the School Principal, Aingeal Nic an tSábhaisigh, asavage445@c2kni.net , as normal via email or telephone (028 437 71356), if they require support of any kind. **Responses to emails/ calls will only be between school hours 8.30am – 4.30pm**
- Check their child's completed 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.