



St Matthew's C of E Primary School



Let Your Light Shine

Remote Learning Policy

1. Introduction

At St Matthew's C of E Primary School, our remote learning approach is rooted in our commitment to children's wellbeing, academic engagement, and our Christian ethos of "*Let your light shine*" (Matthew 5:16). In any situation where pupils cannot attend school physically—such as a local or national lockdown—we aim to provide high-quality remote education that enables every child to continue learning, stay connected, and feel supported.

This policy aligns with the **Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance**, including:

- *Providing remote education: guidance for schools* (DfE, updated 2023)
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE, statutory guidance 2024)
- *Education Act 2002* (Section 175 – safeguarding duties)
- *Equality Act 2010* (reasonable adjustments for SEND)
- *SEND Code of Practice 2015*

Our BRIGHT values (Brave, Respectful, Inspirational, Grateful, Honest, Togetherness) guide all aspects of remote learning.

2. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Ensure continuity of learning during periods of remote education, in line with DfE expectations for maintained schools.
- Prioritise the wellbeing and safety of pupils and families.

- Provide clear expectations for pupils, staff, and parents/carers.
- Maintain strong communication and safeguarding practices in accordance with KCSIE.
- Ensure equitable access to learning for all pupils, including those with SEND, in line with the SEND Code of Practice.

3. Remote Learning Platform

St Matthew's uses **Google Classroom** as its primary remote learning platform.

- Every pupil has an individual login.
- Teachers will post work daily or weekly depending on the year group.
- Live lessons, recorded content, assignments, and feedback will all be delivered through Google Classroom and or TEAMS.

This approach aligns with the DfE expectation that schools provide a "planned and well-sequenced curriculum" remotely, using digital platforms where appropriate.

Google Classroom is **not** a communication tool for pupils to message each other. SLT and the safeguarding team will monitor the platform regularly.

4. Expectations for Pupils

During remote learning, pupils are expected to:

- Attend the daily morning check-in/register at the time set by their class teacher.
- Participate in at least one live lesson per day.
- Complete the work set and submit assignments within the given timeframe.
- Keep cameras turned on during live sessions unless otherwise agreed for safeguarding or SEND reasons.
- Demonstrate respectful behaviour online, following the school's BRIGHT values.
- Dress appropriately for live sessions.
- Use Google Classroom responsibly and only for learning activities.

These expectations reflect the DfE requirement that pupils engage with remote education and that schools monitor engagement.

5. Expectations for Parents/Carers

Parents and carers are expected to:

- Ensure their child is ready, dressed, and logged in for the morning check-in.
- Encourage engagement with daily lessons and completion of work.
- Provide a quiet, safe space for learning where possible.
- Monitor their child's online activity and ensure appropriate behaviour.
- Communicate with school through the usual channels (not through pupil Google accounts).
- Inform the school if their child is unwell or unable to participate.

This aligns with DfE guidance that schools should work closely with families to support remote learning.

6. Expectations for Staff

Teachers will:

- Provide a daily morning check-in for pupils.
- Deliver at least one live lesson per day.
- Set meaningful, age-appropriate work aligned with the curriculum.
- Provide feedback on submitted work within a reasonable timeframe.
- Maintain regular contact with pupils and families, especially where engagement is low.
- Report any safeguarding concerns immediately to the DSL.

Senior Leaders will:

- Monitor engagement, wellbeing, and the quality of remote learning.
- Support staff, pupils, and families with any issues that arise.
- Ensure safeguarding procedures remain robust and compliant with KCSIE.

7. Safeguarding and Online Safety

Safeguarding remains a priority during remote learning.

The safeguarding team consists of:

- **DSL:** Mrs Tridgel
- **Headteacher:** Mrs Harris
- **Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs Halil
- **Welfare Officer:** Miss Grout

All concerns must be reported following the school's Safeguarding Policy and Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024).

Online safety expectations reflect the DfE's *Teaching Online Safety in Schools* guidance (2019):

- Pupils must keep cameras on unless agreed otherwise.
- Live lessons will follow school safeguarding protocols.
- Staff will only use school-approved platforms and accounts.
- Parents should supervise their child's online activity where possible.

8. Provision for SEND and Pupils with EHCPs

St Matthew's is committed to ensuring that pupils with SEND or EHCPs continue to receive appropriate support during remote learning, in line with the **SEND Code of Practice (2015)** and the **Equality Act 2010**.

Provision may include:

- Differentiated work tailored to individual needs.
- Additional small-group or 1:1 online sessions where appropriate.
- Regular check-ins from the Inclusion Lead or support staff.
- Reasonable adjustments to expectations (e.g., reduced workload, alternative formats).
- Continued liaison with external agencies where possible.
- Support for parents to help them understand how to assist their child at home.

The Inclusion Lead will work closely with teachers and families to ensure that each child's needs are met as effectively as possible.

9. Access and Digital Inclusion

To ensure all pupils can access remote learning:

- The school will loan devices to families who do not have suitable equipment at home.
- A loan agreement must be signed before devices are issued.
- Where digital access is not possible, paper learning packs will be provided.
- Staff will maintain contact with families who require alternative provision.

This aligns with DfE expectations that schools take “reasonable steps” to overcome digital barriers.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

- SLT will monitor engagement, lesson quality, and wellbeing throughout any remote learning period.
- Feedback from pupils, parents, and staff will inform improvements.
- This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if required by changes in DfE guidance.

11. Conclusion

Remote learning at St Matthew’s aims to balance wellbeing, academic progress, and our Christian ethos. By working together—pupils, families, and staff—we ensure that every child can continue to learn, grow, and let their light shine, even when learning from home.

The policy has been reviewed annually and last updated:	September 2025
The policy will be reviewed:	September 2026