

15th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

Online learning provision

As part of our plans for the full provision of education to all pupils we have adapted our online systems to best support all students this academic year.

We understand the complexity of the ever-changing Covid-19 rules and regulations governing education and the challenges and impact it potentially has on learning. We are determined therefore to mitigate this as best we can and support all pupils with blended learning from home if it becomes necessary in the future.

In order to ensure that learning is continued, irrespective of lockdown and self-isolation, our plan offers remote learning opportunities whilst also acknowledging that some households have limited access to devices and would require hard-copies of work and resources.

We have organised a Google Survey to take place in school during tutor time over the coming week. This will ask all pupils a series of questions relating to their access to computers at home. As per the Department for Education's guidance set out last month, we will need to have plans in place for potential tiered closures in the future. Although we are hoping for minimal disruption, we need to prepare and be ready for all possibilities. As such, we will be asking pupils the below key questions in relation to how they work at home.

Do pupils have access to a computer/laptop/tablet to complete work on?

Do pupils have to share access with siblings/have limited time they can use the device for?

Does home WiFi access enable them to complete the work?

We will then use the results of this survey to ensure we are able to provide work packs and other offline resources for those pupils who will potentially require them should the situation demand it. It will also allow us to provide accurate information to the Department of Education in terms of what support they can provide us with.

If you want to let us know about any limitations your household might have with computer/online access to work, please do call the school office.

Furthermore, as per the Department of Education's guidance, we will also ensure that any pupil who has to stay at home to self-isolate in the event of a suspected Covid-19 case will receive online work to complete.

We are working towards providing high-quality resources and where possible the same lessons they would be taught in the classroom. We have adapted our provision so that it can be provided at short notice and will be centralised for greater consistency. We have taken steps to enhance this provision and we believe this will help pupils learn from home whilst they are unable to attend school.

- a) All pupils have been enrolled into a **Google Classroom** for all their subjects. This will be used for the setting of homework and assignments. It will be accessible for all pupils in a class and will allow pupils to easily communicate with their teachers and ask work related questions. Furthermore, ICT lessons this term will give pupils time to join and learn how to use Google Classrooms to complete work effectively.
- b) We will continue to use **Classcharts** to outline what work has been set and as the main form of communication with parents/carers. This will enable you to monitor what has been set for your child and to see their progress through the house point system.
- c) Finally, we have created **a Google Drive of fully resourced teacher lessons for each subject and every year group**. In the event of a Covid-19 related isolation period for a fixed length of time the pupil in question will be invited to their year group specific Google Drive. They will have full access to their online learning resources and we have designed these Google Drives to be pupil friendly; easy to navigate and simple to use. Upon gaining access to the work, pupils will watch the introductory video from Mr Sayce on how to use the Google Drive. They will then access their normal lessons via the specific work folders. Many teachers have also shared their own recorded videos on how to use their work and this will help pupils with their online learning. If any pupil has questions about their online work whilst not at school and if they are unsure on what to do, we encourage them to email their teacher with their specific enquiry.

In the event of any form of isolation and loss of learning caused by Covid-19, parents and carers must understand that engagement in home learning is compulsory, as is the expectation that Acle Academy makes that provision available and accessible to all. However, if children themselves are too ill to attend then they should not be expected to engage in home learning.

We are confident that these measures and provisions will ensure that all pupils will have access to a high-quality and consistent online learning platform if the circumstances require it. We will also be prepared to support pupils who may not have access to online learning.

If you have any questions in relation to the above information, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to discuss any matters pertaining to online learning provision.

With best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely



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