

Saint Mary's National School

Belmont Ave. Donnybrook, Dublin 4
and

Mount Eden Rd, Donnybrook, Dublin 4

St. Mary's N.S. Remote Learning Plan in a COVID-19 Context

Principles underpinning this plan:

- Ensure continuity of learning among students
- Ensure a consistent approach to remote learning
- Endeavour to provide a manageable and clear framework for all members of our school community and ensure no-one is overburdened
- Maintain and foster well-being among our school community

This document was prepared in accordance with the most recent guidance on remote learning in a COVID-19 context from the DES. It was a collaboration with the Board of Management and teaching staff of St Mary's N.S. Data collated from the Parental Survey on remote learning was used to inform the drafting of the policy.

Responding to a Range of Scenarios

Possible scenarios which may arise for the school year 2020/2021 and corresponding school response to each scenario is outlined in the table below:

Scenario		School Response
1	An individual pupil from a class is advised to self-isolate or restrict his/her movements. <i>Parent(s)/Guardian are asked to inform the school by email if their child/children have been advised to self-isolate so remote learning can be initiated expediently.</i>	The class teacher and/or SET will provide teaching input and learning opportunities to the pupil, initially using consolidatory learning activities through the school's chosen digital platform. Teachers will do a daily check-in with the student. Homework can be accessed via the Seesaw platform. The class teacher will provide feedback on learning activities and homework submitted and monitor progress to support the continuation of pupils' learning. In order to promote a sense of belonging, an additional activity will be posted by the class teacher once a week to the class journal/blog. Pupils will be encouraged to respond to this activity to ensure continuity of interaction and a sense of belonging within the class group. Pupil will be supported by class teacher to catch up on return to school.
2	All pupils in one or more	The class teacher and/or SET will provide teaching

	classes are advised to self-isolate or restrict their movements	<p>input and learning opportunities to the pupils, initially using consolidatory learning activities through the school's chosen digital platform. Teachers will do a daily check-in with the pupils.</p> <p>Homework may be accessed via the Seesaw platform.</p> <p>The class teacher and/or SET will provide feedback on learning activities and homework submitted and monitor progress to support the continuation of pupils' learning.</p> <p>In order to promote a sense of belonging, an additional activity will be posted by the class teacher once a week to the class journal/blog. Pupils will be encouraged to respond to this activity to ensure continuity of interaction and a sense of belonging within the class group.</p>
3	A teacher / number of teachers in the school are advised to self-isolate or restrict their movements	If the teacher's class group is still attending school a substitute teacher will be arranged to cover this teacher's teaching responsibilities in the school for this period.
4	The school is advised to close on foot of public health advice	In this case all teachers will provide remote learning to all pupils in their class or on their caseload.
5	Long term absence due to pupil being medically advised as being at very high risk to COVID-19 category.	<p>Please see link to DES guidance on supporting primary students who are at very high risk to COVID-19.</p> <p>https://assets.gov.ie/85746/9ff54b35-352e-4cdb-b93b-68a25ac7c619.pdf</p> <p>(Please ensure Appendix 2 from above linked document is completed prior to commencement of support.)</p>

This is a working document which will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis throughout the 2020/21 school year.

This document was approved by the Board of Management at its meeting on 23 November, 2020.

John Hennessy

Chairperson Board of Management

Anne Purcell

Principal, Secretary Board of Management

Digital Platforms to Facilitate Remote Learning and Communication:

- Seesaw is the online platform we use for remote and blended learning. It also facilitates digital communication between staff and pupils and between schools and parents/guardians.
- Aladdin is the online platform used for home-school communications.
- Microsoft Teams is the online platform used for digital communication between staff.

Please note: Guidelines will be circulated in relation to Remote Learning in the event of class or school closure.

This document was prepared following consultation with the following documents and websites:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a0bff-reopening-our-primary-and-special-schools/>

Returning to school Curriculum guidance for primary school leaders and teachers

<https://assets.gov.ie/83428/fc647a03-cec8-4b5f-95cd-4af4d6e608ad.pdf>

Continuity of schooling: Supporting primary pupils who are at very high risk to COVID-19

<https://assets.gov.ie/85746/9ff54b35-352e-4cdb-b93b-68a25ac7c619.pdf>

<https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/guidance-on-continuity-of-schooling.pdf>

<https://assets.gov.ie/90252/070614f4-3dff-4489-8e4d-be8cd625999e.pdf>

Guidance on Remote Learning in a COVID-19 Context: September - December 2020

www.webwise.ie

<https://www.pdst.ie/distancelearning>

<https://pdst.ie/blendedlearning>

Guidance on Continuity of Schooling: Supporting Pupils with Special Educational Needs For primary and special schools

<https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/National-Emergencies-Public-Health-Issues/guidance-continuity-of-schooling-supporting-pupils-with-sen-primary.pdf>