# Anacarty National School

# Remote Learning Plan

**Remote Teaching and Learning Plan for Anacarty National School**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In response to this time of uncertainty regarding school closures, we have formulated this policy to outline how the school will maintain the link between school and home. In the event of another whole or partial school closure, we aim to continue to communicate with our pupils through various means.

We recognise that online safety is of huge importance and the aim of this document is to help to protect both school staff and pupils, while teaching and learning online.

This policy does not set out to replace our Mobile Phone or Acceptable Usage Policy. Rather, it is proposed as an important addition to the area of learning from a digital platform. The policy presented here should be read also in tandem with our school's Code of Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy.

The primary obligation of all schools is to the welfare of the learners in their school. This policy, therefore, seeks to ensure that remote learning is safe for all student learners and that personal and sensitive data is also protected under GDPR legislation. Schools must ensure that learning takes place in an environment that is respectful and fair and meets its statutory duties.

This Policy has been formulated in accordance with the provisions of the Department of Education and relevant sections of:

 (a) The Education Act (1998)

(b) Education (Welfare) Act (2000)

(c) Equal Status Act (2000)

(d) Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act (2004)

 (e) Disability Act (2005)

(f) Children First Act (2017)

(g) GDPR

(h) Data Protection Act (2018)

(i) Department of Education: Child Protection Procedures for Primary schools

(j) NEWB Guidelines for Developing a Code of Behaviour (2008).

(k) DES Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for Primary Schools (May 2020)

(l) DES Guidance on Continuity of Schooling: *Supporting Primary Pupils at very High Risk to Covid 19* (August 2020)*.*

This is a working document. As we continue to explore options available to support distance learning, the document will be updated accordingly.

**Guidelines for good online communication in Anacarty National School:**

1. Under no circumstances should pictures or recordings be taken of video calls.
2. Staff, families and students are expected to behave in an appropriate, safe, respectful and kind manner online.
3. It is the duty of parents/guardians to supervise children while they are working online and to ensure that any content submitted to their teacher is appropriate.
4. Staff members will communicate with pupils and their families via Google Classroom and Seesaw
5. Any electronic forms of communication will be for educational purposes and to allow for communication with families.
6. Students and staff will communicate using tools which have been approved by the school and of which parents have been notified
7. Parental permission will be acquired before setting up a profile for a pupil on a communication forum.
8. For security reasons, passwords will be provided to families, where applicable.
9. Anacarty NS cannot accept responsibility for the security of online platforms, in the event that they are compromised.

Anacarty National School will use the following online platforms for communicating and connecting with families/pupils. Our 'Remote Teaching and Learning Plan' will include a combination of assigned work, pre-recorded lessons (Seesaw & Google Classroom)

2: **Seesaw:**

*Seesaw Class App* is for our pupils to connect to their folder and they then have the option of uploading items to their folder for their teacher to see.  This app is used from Junior Infants – Third Class. Each child will be assigned an individual access code.Some lessons will be pre -recorded and uploaded via Seesaw.

3. **Google Classroom:**

Google Classroom is an online platform used with Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Class pupils and again it enables our pupils to connect to their folder of work and it also allows access to their teacher when required.Some lessons will be pre -recorded and uploaded on Google Classroom.

**Rules for pupils using online communication methods:**

For submitting learning:

1. Submit work and pictures that are appropriate - have an adult take a look at your work before you send it.

2. Use kind and friendly words.

**Guidelines for parents and guardians:**

For learning

1. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to ensure that pupils are supervised while they work online.
2. Check over the work which pupils send to their teacher, ensuring it is appropriate.
3. Continue to revise online safety measures with pupils.

It is important to note that any breach of the above guidelines will result in a discontinuation of this method of communication. A breach may also result in a person being immediately removed from a meeting or a meeting being immediately terminated.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Students:**
- Check assigned work each week
- Communication may only take place during normal school hours
- The normal school calendar will apply
- The following school policies apply to remote teaching and learning:
    - Code of Behaviour
    - Anti- Bullying Policy
    - Acceptable Use Policy

- Teaching and Learning best practice will continue to apply, with students expected to present all assignments to the best of their ability and on time, where possible in this evolving and unprecedented situation
    - o In so far as possible, provision for SEN students will be made when using Remote Learning methodologies

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Parents**

- We ask parents/guardians to ensure protocols for students are adhered to
- Check-in on their child's school work on a daily basis and talk to their child about the work being assigned
- The health and wellbeing of all is paramount. Circumstances may change for any of us unexpectedly, teachers or parents, so please keep schooling in perspective and do not allow anything school related to impinge on your child negatively. You are the primary educator of your child and you make those calls. We encourage a little work every week day for routine. We provide work and guidance and ask parents and pupils to do their best and that is all.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Teachers/SNA's**

- Check uploaded work each week
- Communication may only take place during normal school hours
- The normal school calendar will apply
- The following school policies apply to remote teaching and learning:
    - o Child Protection Policy

- o Data Protection Policy
- Teaching and Learning best practice will continue to apply with students expected to present all assignments to the best of their ability and on time, where possible.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Provision specifically for the following Covid 19 related scenarios**

**In the case of all children who are instructed to self-isolate by their GP or HSE Public Health, educational provision will be provided as follows:**

1. Children who are awaiting Covid 19 test results for themselves or a family member and have been instructed by their GP to isolate at home for a few days. These pupils will be supported to catch up on their learning on their return to school
2. Children isolating at home on instruction from their GP due to a confirmed case within their own family/close contact outside of school (14-day isolation period). Teacher will link in with the pupil via See-Saw/ Google-Classroom
3. School POD (group of four) instructed by HSE Pubic Health to self-isolate. Teacher will link in with the pupils via See-Saw/ Google-Classroom
4. School bubble (whole class) instructed by HSE Public Health to self-isolate (14day isolation period). Teacher will engage with the bubble daily on Seesaw/Google Classroom
5. Whole school closure as instructed by HSE Public Health (duration of closure will be advised by Public Health)Teachers will engage with pupils, using a blended approach of pre-recorded lessons, Seesaw/Google Classroom

**Please note that the current situation is quite fluid and these circumstances may vary throughout the year.**

**Summary:**

→Do what you can, within your circumstances.

→There will be no school work set for planned school closures/holidays. There will be no interaction on Seesaw or Google Classroom during these times

→We ask parents/guardians, students and teachers to ensure protocols are adhered to at all times.

→If you have yet to connect to any of the on-line platforms please do so. If you are experiencing difficulties please email the school and we will assist you in any way that we can and please contact the school with any further queries you may have.

We thank the school community for adhering to the above guidelines for everyone's safety and welfare.

This plan was ratified by the BOM NS at its meeting on:

October 2020 and is subject to change, in light of any guidance or instruction received from Department of Education and Skills/HSE Public Health.

Signed: Margaret Ryan

(Chairperson BOM NS)

**\*Recommended Apps**
In addition to a pared back plan of work for your child/children, we suggest the following Apps for your child's use too, if you can access them. If not, do not worry, they are helpful but not essential.

- **Cúla 4:** Excellent for younger pupils for Irish vocab – very child friendly. There are also videos of your children's favourite cartoons here as Gaeilge which would be useful to watch occasionally to keep up with Irish
- **Doulingo:** most suitable from 2nd class upwards. Excellent app. Tests your child Irish ability level at the start and they work away at their own level for 10mins daily
- **Mathduel:** For tables. Fun and interactive
- **Starfall:** For spellings. Again, very child friendly and useful to keep spellings progressing without feeling like schoolwork
- **Jolly Phonics App:** to keep up phonics learning for infant classes
- **Dolch words Apps:** (there is a wide range available): for the development of sight words
- **Nessy Apps:** for reading for pupils with dyslexia or difficulties
- **PinkFong:** Digital stories for infant classes. Excellent and engaging
- **Khan Academy:** Useful for maths for older pupils especially
- **Kahoot:** for general knowledge and quizzes
- **Toontastic:** probably the best app ever for digital storytelling – pupils can devise their own digital story, picking a range of characters, settings, even musical background. They plan a beginning, middle and end to their story and can record their own voices to tell the story
- **Puppetpals:** similar to toontastic – useful for younger pupils. They can record themselves telling the story also
- **Lightbot** – Coding app – super for all ages.