

Best Practice Guidance for Educating Children During the COVID-19 Outbreak

Thank you all for your hard work and co-operation during this challenging time.

We have had many questions from head teachers and teachers across the county and hope that this best practice guidance provides a little bit of support for you, for the rest of this academic term.

WHAT SHOULD WE PROVIDE FOR PUPILS NOT IN SCHOOL?

Best practice includes:

- Teachers continuing to provide remote learning activities and opportunities for children to access at home. This could be a combination of online, paper based and practical learning. Don't forget to include regular reading and physical activity!
- Teachers checking in with pupils regarding the learning that is taking place, as regularly as is appropriate.
- Teachers accessing a wide range of online support regarding the provision of remote learning (eg <https://schoolsict.co.uk/support/news-support/coronavirus>).
- Teachers accessing specific mathematics and English support regarding remote learning from LA advisers – ask school SEA for more details if required.
- Pupils having a set timetable across the week for a range of learning activities.
- Teachers setting up Facebook and Whatsapp groups to support one another.
- Teachers setting up Facebook and Whatsapp groups with students – in line with safeguarding guidance (<https://www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/covid-19-coronavirus-advice-for-schools/>)
- Schools sharing announcements on school Facebook pages/Twitter.
- Regularly updating school websites to give pupils guidance and keep them focused.
- Continuing to set work for pupils in Years 11 and 13 to ensure that any teacher assessment that is required at a later stage is as robust as possible.

From 23rd March 2020, every child who can be safely cared at home should be. If it is at all possible for them to be at home, then they should be. For pupils who cannot be kept safe at home then they will be in schools.

GUIDANCE FOR VULNERABLE PUPILS AND CHILDREN OF CRITICAL WORKERS

WHO ARE IN SCHOOL

- Schools will have set up remote learning systems for all pupils (as identified above) and it is highly recommended that those pupils who will be attending schools over the coming period, continue to follow what has been put in place for all pupils, as a minimum.
- Adults in schools may also wish to lead additional activities for pupils, if capacity allows.
- Adults who will be working with children and young people in schools should support them to access their learning activities and opportunities, as appropriate.
- This support could be provided by teachers or teaching assistants.