

ANNEX TO CLASS DOJO POLICY / REMOTE LEARNING – COVID-19 (2020/21)



This document supplements the existing Class Dojo (Remote Learning) for Kilkeel PS in line with COVID-19 Guidance for all Educational Settings:

The following is written having due regard to DE Circular Number 2021/02; DE Education Restart Guidance for Schools and Educational Settings in NI and EA Guidance for School 08/01/21.

What is remote learning?

Remote learning is where the pupil and teacher are not physically present in a traditional classroom environment for a specified period of time.

Remote learning can occur **synchronously** i.e. with real-time teacher to pupil and pupil to pupil interaction and collaboration at the same time, or **asynchronously** i.e. with self-paced learning activities that take place independently of the teacher and can be completed at different points in time, based on the child or young person's request or home circumstances.

An asynchronous approach provides greater flexibility and is easier for parents to manage at home. Consideration should be given at all times to ensuring availability of resources for pupils without online access, including the distribution of hard copy materials.

DE notes that there is no compelling evidence to indicate that synchronous learning is more effective at improving pupil outcomes than asynchronous approaches. Questions remain around the appropriateness of livestreaming for pupils, given that not all children and young people have access to equipment or internet access. There are also concerns around child protection and safeguarding.

Providing self-assessment and peer-assessment opportunities, especially for older children, is a key element to remote learning, as it allows pupils time and space to reflect on their own learning and performance and to set future goals i.e. independent learners.

Numerous studies have indicated that the importance of feedback cannot be overestimated. Giving regular feedback when working remotely can:

- Keep pupils motivated and enthusiastic about their learning
- Give pupils a sense that work is being looked at, so they will keep sharing it
- Keep channels of communication open so pupils and their families feel part of the school community

- Enhance pupils learning allowing schools to provide the best possible education in the circumstances.

Remote learning in KPS

- KPS will use an asynchronous approach to remote learning.
- KPS will use a variety of e-learning platforms (shared through Class DoJo) to provide additional opportunities to motivate pupils, establish a daily routine and give online feedback to help keep pupils engaged and enhance their learning experience.
- KPS will use a range of multimedia aspects of e-learning eg visuals, video and audio recordings, links to videos, online experiments, animations and podcast etc to provide pupils with different ways of explaining and understanding concepts.

NOTE: This will vary between year groups, topic and task.

- KPS will make contact with a parent / guardian via Class DoJo or telephone if there is a lack of engagement.