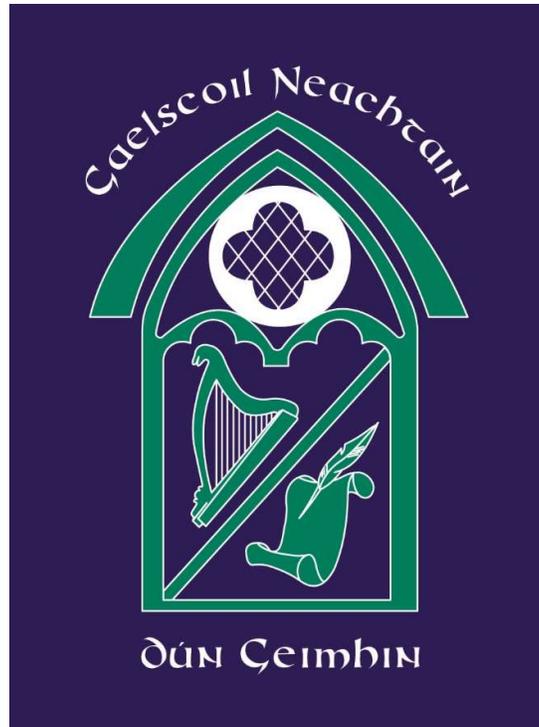


Gaelscoil Neachtain



Pólasaí don Chianfhoghlaim

Remote Learning policy

Remote Learning - Introduction

In the event of long-term closure, staff at Gaelscoil Neachtain will continue to provide education and support to our pupils using remote learning.

In this case, learning will be conducted using *Google Classroom*. This will allow staff to keep in daily contact, in a professional and confidential manner with parents/pupils in their class.

Teachers will be able to schedule learning in a manner that does not overwhelm or concern our pupils. Teaching and learning can be tailored, changed and updated as time progresses, allowing for replication of classroom activity to the best of our ability.

In all communications we will adhere to our commitment to maintaining pupil well-being.

Flexibility

We realise that the circumstances that cause our school to close will affect families in a number of ways. In our planning and expectations, we are aware of the need for flexibility from all sides:

- Parents may be trying to work from home and so access to technology as a family may be limited
- Teachers may be trying to manage their own home situation and the learning of their own children
- Systems may not always function as they should

An understanding of, and willingness to adapt to, these difficulties on all sides is essential for success.

Expectations

Article 28 of the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child states that 'Every child has the right to an education'. In the case of long term closure, we believe that it is in the best interests of our pupils that we continue to provide structured support to the best of our ability.

Bearing in mind the need for flexibility, we understand that in exceptional circumstances work may be completed out of sync with when it is shared.

That said, the work that pupils engage in during a period of closure cannot be considered as optional. Pupils and parents should consider the arrangements as set out in this document as *essential* to progressing learning.

Remote Learning Start Date

The first day of any extended closure will be used by teachers to prepare for the coming period and there will be no remote learning scheduled. The programme of remote learning will start from the second day of the period of extended closure. Online sessions should be time limited for the benefit of both children and teachers. Pupils and parents/guardians will also be reminded of acceptable use at this point.

Teaching Staff will:

- Share teaching and activities with their class on a daily basis through *Google Classroom*.
- Be fully dressed and should not wear pyjamas / sleep wear during the session.
- Arrange the session and password / PIN and share this only with pupils and their parents/guardians.
- Upload all activities / teaching before the start of the lesson.
- Continue teaching in line with the current, extensive planning that is already in place throughout the school.
- Give credence to the fact that learning remotely will be more difficult and therefore adjust tasks and provide additional instructions/support as necessary.
- Keep in contact with pupils using *Google Classroom*.
- Reply to messages, set work and give feedback on activities during normal teaching hours only: 9am to 3pm.
- Will set flexible deadlines for the completion of activities as all teachers have an understanding that closure will affect families in a number of ways.
- Monitor evidence of learning* and contact children / parents as appropriate.
- While teachers correct *all* work, they will give feedback to children twice a week, focusing on what most needs to be developed to ensure ongoing progress. In addition, teachers will provide feedback regarding Friday's Literacy and Maths assessment, Rang 3 – Rang 7
- Take regular breaks away from the computer or iPad to engage in other professional duties as much as circumstances allow.
- If unwell themselves, will be covered by another member of staff for sharing of activities. Responding to and following up messages via *Google Classroom* will not be undertaken at this time; will recommence once the teacher has returned to school.
- Participate in a rota to supervise learning at the Gaelscoil. During this time, teachers will not participate in synchronous learning with children.

*Evidence of learning – completion of activities on *Google Classroom*, participation in synchronous learning, videos, photographs of work, return of written work.

Pupils will:

- Be assured that their well-being is at the forefront of our thoughts and that they should take regular breaks, get fresh air, exercise and maintain a reasonable balance between online engagement and offline activities.
- Be fully dressed and should not wear pyjamas / sleep wear during live lessons.
- **Pupils cannot participate in live lessons from a bedroom.**
- **Agree not to share the class code / meet link with anyone else.**
- **Not screenshot or copy information, messages, videos or posts to share on social media or any other platform outside of Google Classroom.**
- Complete written activities as directed by the teacher. Each child will be provided with an exercise book.
- Return evidence of completed work as agreed with class teacher.
- Only access the material shared by their teacher and will ask for parental permission to use technology for anything beyond that.
- Read on a daily basis, either independently or with an adult.
- Follow their own interests to discover more about the world around us or be creative.
- Will engage online at normal school hours (9am to 3pm).

Parents will:

- Parents / Guardians will be informed of their child's expected participation in a live video conferencing platform prior to first use.
- Support their child's learning to the best of their ability.
- Encourage their child to access and engage in learning set by the class teacher.
- **Not screenshot or copy information, messages, videos or posts to share on social media or any other platform outside of Google Classroom.**
- Know that they can contact the teacher as normal, in a respectful manner, through *Google Classroom* if they require support.
- Teachers will reply and give relevant feedback in due course; within the hours of 9am to 3pm.
- Check their child's completed work each day and encourage the progress that is being made.
- Be mindful of mental well-being of both themselves and their child and encourage their child to take regular breaks, play games, get fresh air and relax.