

Race Leys Infant School**Blended Learning Policy**

Originator	Jeanette Snape
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Agreed by staff	
Ratified by Governors	
Signed	
Date	
To be reviewed	July 2021
Monitored by	Jeanette Snape

'Learning Together We Can Reach For The Stars'

Race Leys Infant School

POLICY TITLE	BLENDED LEARNING
<p>The unprecedented global lockdown, which resulted in prolonged national school closures, has meant that, for several months, home learning has become the norm. The future remains uncertain and we remain vigilant to the prospect of a repeated lockdown at local or national level. As such, it is now more crucial than ever to implement new innovative ways, using new technologies to deliver curriculum content and support effective learning both inside and outside of the classroom. As education embraces a phased return to school, even greater challenges present with the prospect of a mixture of school and home learning becoming the new norm.</p>	
INTENT	<p>At Race Leys Infant School it is our intention to plan, implement and facilitate a method of effective 'blended learning for all of our children to access both inside and outside of the classroom as to support simultaneous learning both in school and at home. We want our children and staff to competently use the technological tools in place with confidence and to view 'blended-learning' as a progressive and modern way of learning, rather than a contingency plan to utilise in the event of another forced break from school.</p> <p>Blended Learning can extend learning beyond the classroom walls; create a continuous and stronger home-school link and play a huge part in helping to develop computing skills in our 21st Century children.</p>
IMPLEMENTATION	<p>To plan, implement and facilitate effective blended learning at Race Leys Infant school we will use the communication technologies that are readily available and so blended learning will be accessible via the Warwickshire learning platform. All children and staff have access to this portal via their personalised log-in. At school children will access the learning platform using the school ipads and computers. At home, children can be supported to access the we-learn learning platform via a computer, tablet or a smart phone.</p> <p><u>BLENDED LEARNING with Purple Mash</u></p> <p>All children at Race Leys have a work folder within their class group in Purple Mash. This is available to use both in school and at home. Teachers will utilise the wealth of learning content available on Purple Mash regularly as they teach across all aspects of the school curriculum. In school, children will be taught how to access and navigate Purple Mash so that they become familiar with the features of the site, including the Blog and notice board features of the program. Teachers will set regular '2do' tasks for the children to complete at home as part of their normal home learning challenges. As such, in the event of a forced break from school, children and parents will be able to continue to access learning '2do' challenges set by the teachers. Purple mash provides the facility for all children to hand completed work in and for teachers to mark and provide personalised feedback to the children. Additionally, teachers can track children's learning progress using the assessment tools on the site. Planning, marking and assessment of learning on Purple mash can be completed by teachers on any work in the children's work folders.</p> <p><u>BLENDED LEARNING with Microsoft TEAMS</u></p> <p>Every class has a virtual classroom on Microsoft TEAMS. This is accessible through SharePoint on the we-learn learning platform and every child in school will be assigned to their own class TEAM. Children will have the opportunity to learn how to use TEAMS when they are in school. They will learn how to access the activities that their teachers will build up within the channels in their class group. Additionally, there will be opportunities in school for children to learn how 'TEAMS' meetings work. They will experience TEAMS meetings with other classes across school and whole school assemblies. This will serve the purpose of encouraging a sense of school community (albeit virtually) and will also teach</p>

PARENTAL SUPPORT

the children how they can continue to communicate within their class group and access learning tasks even if they are not in school.

Teachers can use their Class TEAM to:

- Create, mark and assess home learning tasks for children to complete.
- Create virtual lessons (both recorded and/or live) for children to access remotely.
- Create virtual learning challenges for the children to access remotely.
- Provide bespoke class/year group information for parents/children to easily access.
- Organise mutually convenient virtual appointments to 'meet' with parents.
- Arrange and facilitate small group/whole class 'meets' to allow children to work collaboratively and safely outside of school.

We recognise that given the age of our children, blended learning can only be successful if parents/carers are willing and able to encourage and help their children access the tools on the learning platform. As such we will:

- Ensure we are aware who has the appropriate technology available for their child to use regularly and who does not.
- Ensure that parents are given appropriate training so that they are confident and able to support their child access and use the resources available to them.
- Ensure parents have access to on-going support to help with issues when they need it.
- Ensure there is a programme of home learning available for those children who cannot access the learning platform remotely.

DATE APPROVED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
April 2020	April 2022
Signed:	Date: