

Pentrepoeth Primary School



Guidance to parents and carers to support learners to stay safe and stay learning

Dear Parent/ Carer,

This year's changing circumstances have required great flexibility and resilience as learning moves from home to school and back again. We are grateful to you for supporting your child's learning offline or online at this difficult time. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to set work for your child to do, maintain contact and provide you with help along the way. Any encouragement and support you offer will be very helpful, but you are not being asked to be a teacher. We hope that this leaflet will provide you with some useful information about the way in which your child is currently being asked to learn.

Definitions

Distance Learning: An approach that combines face to face and distance learning experiences. Face to face learning and distance learning should complement each other and should be driven by a single curriculum.

Blended Learning - Where learners are provided with a combination of face-to-face learning and distance learning tasks and activities.

Remote Learning: This means the same as Distance Learning (above).

Face to Face Learning: Refers to the learning your child(ren) will receive when they are inside an educational setting.

Synchronous Learning:

Teachers and learners attend a session/lesson at the same time. This can take place face to face or online.

Online learning: Is education that takes place over the Internet. It is often referred to as "e- learning" among other terms. However, online learning is just one type of 'distance learning'.

Asynchronous Learning:

Teachers provide learning materials (may include online videos, audio clips and presentations) which can be accessed by the learner in their own time.

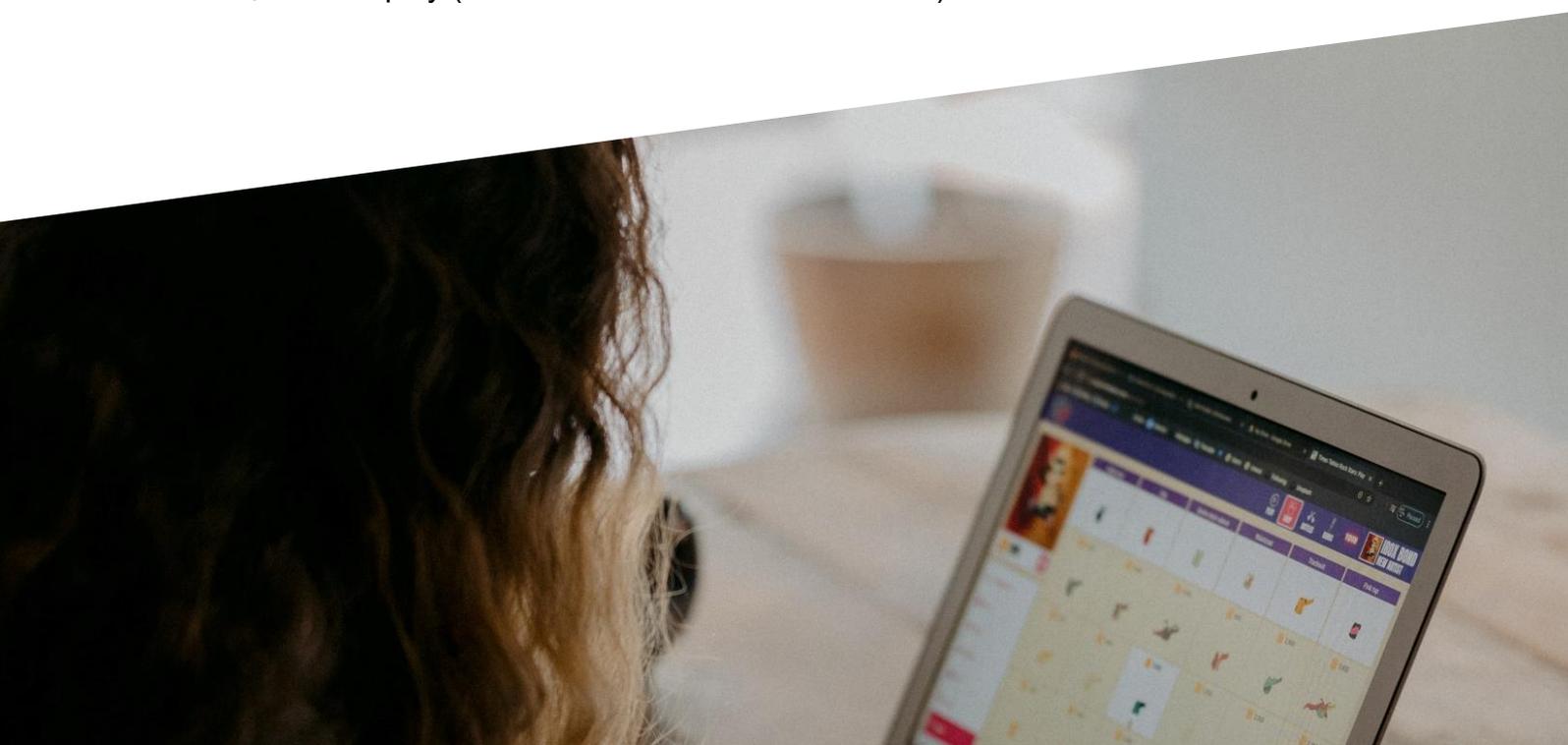
Different approaches to delivering learning

It is important to note that schools and settings will take different approaches to delivering learning during this period. One model of delivery will not suit all schools or all learners and there are many forms of learning that will be undertaken during this period. It is not helpful to compare how one school approaches distance learning to another as the contexts will vary. Our approach is based on the research that has the biggest impact on progress. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to look at some of the latest research. Estyn the EAS and LA have also provided guidance and support to all schools.

It is our firm view that a mixed model of asynchronous and synchronous activities will have the biggest impact on wellbeing, achievement and attainment. This will be flexible across the range of year groups and will constantly develop.

Our child(ren) will be in receipt of a variety of methods to engage them in their learning. This may include:

- Pre-recorded material from staff to explain and set the scene for learning (asynchronous).
- Some sessions may be delivered via live streaming (synchronous). We have started using Microsoft Teams this week – these will continue and develop.
- Learning tasks which may need completing online, in books, reading books or creatively (building models etc).
- Shared learning where learners may be able to learn with their peers through a learning platform.
- Teachers may engage with your child(ren) through a messaging function within their learning platform, for example, Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, See-Saw to support them with their learning. This may include voice over apps for feedback.
- Independent activities, for example: researching a subject or topic, completing a practice test or assessment, watching a TV programme for example, BBC have a range of programmes on offer to assist our teachers deliver learning.
- Your child(ren) may be asked to attend an online check in session which may referred to as an Assembly, Wellbeing Session, Circle-time, Story-time, for example.
- Engage in physical activities, for example: Joe Wicks fitness sessions, going for a local walk, outdoor play (in line with Government Guidance).



What can you expect from us?

1. Your children's teacher will set work on a daily/weekly basis with clear guidance and where appropriate support, for your child(ren) to complete and return their completed work to school for marking/feedback via See Saw or Google Classroom
2. Your child may receive work directly from school, again on a daily/weekly basis and indicate when your child needs to engage in learning and when to complete learning tasks independently. There is a clear timetable in place for live sessions. I will continue to update you regularly in newsletters of any changes to the timetable.
3. We will provide work in paper format where there is no access to internet, hardware, revision textbooks or regular stationery (paper, pens etc.). Please be in touch via the office on pentrepoeth.primary@newport.gov.uk if we can help with any IT provision.
4. Our communication about distance learning to parents/carers will be simple and accessible to all. Overviews are available via the school website – www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk – look for class pages under Blended Learning. Clear guides are available on the school website for access and use of all platforms.
5. We will continue to communicate with you using text messages, newsletters, school website, See-Saw, Google Classrooms.
6. We will ask you as parents/carers to provide views on our learning provision and will continue to refine this giving consideration to your feedback, latest research on impact and relevant Welsh Government guidance.

How you can help us

1. It is important that you contact us if you have any questions, queries or concerns.
2. Try to avoid comparing the approaches to learning that other children are receiving within other classes or within other schools. As a school we are trying hard to ensure that we provide the most appropriate approaches to learning that meet the needs of your child and the learning objectives of each activity. It is likely that these will be varied, as there is no 'best way' or 'one size fits all' when it comes to teaching in this way.
3. Due to the on-going challenges COVID present we are working collaboratively to ensure your child(ren) remain learning. Therefore, there may be occasions when your child will receive Distance/ Online Learning from another teacher within our school.

