

Advice for Pupils and Parents/Carers During Home Learning

January 2021

As you know, during the period from 11th January until at least 1st February, learning for most of Argyll and Bute's children and young people will take place at home. We acknowledge that this period of home learning may be challenging for you and your child(ren). There may be times when you wish to contact the school about your child's learning or other matters. The usual procedures for contacting the school should be used.

The following advice is intended to help you and your child(ren) to engage with online learning in a way which is safe and supportive.

Teachers will provide daily learning activities, which will be delivered in a variety of ways. Please talk to your child about their learning and ensure they take part. Schools may issue parents/carers with materials to help them support home learning

One form of learning which your child may receive will involve direct, live interaction online between pupils and teacher, either using cameras, audio or text only. Online learning will not normally involve one-to-one contact with pupils.

In order that these sessions can run smoothly, and to support the wellbeing of both pupils and staff, it is important that the guidance below is followed.

Guidance for Pupils When Engaging in Online Sessions

- Pupils must attend online lesson, on time.
- Please ensure the background in your home is neutral or blurred and no other people are visible or audible during the lessons.
- Pupils should be appropriately dressed during live online engagement.
- Pupils should turn their microphones to mute before joining the online lesson and when not talking as this prevents noise disruption during the lesson. If they wish to ask a question or respond they can either turn the microphone, raise a virtual hand or type their comment.
- Pupils must behave appropriately at all times. The same standards of behaviour which would be expected in the classroom apply to online learning. For example, pupils must not record or share any materials from these sessions with anyone else.

Guidance for Parents/Carers When Engaging in Online Sessions

- Only teachers may record online lessons, in line with our current GDPR policy. They may use this for future use. If a pupil does not want to be recorded they can turn their camera off.
- For the security of all pupils and staff, parental involvement in online learning should be limited to only supporting their child to attend an online lesson. For example, parents/carers should not intervene or try to talk to the teacher during an online lesson.
- Your child(ren) may find it difficult to concentrate for extended periods of time and regular breaks may be beneficial.
- Whilst awaiting an online reply to a question or return of work from staff please appreciate that this may take longer than usual during this period of home learning.
- School staff are working from home and may have competing demands on their time. Your understanding and patience as parents/carers towards school staff is appreciated during this period of home learning.
- Staff will report any inappropriate online behaviour. Contact with parents/carers will be made following established school procedures.