Renfrewshire Council
Term 4 Guidance on Remote Learning

Renfrewshire Council is committed to ensuring a continuity of education provision for children and young people during the current period of school closure. However, there is no expectation that the contingency measures being put in place by our schools will replicate normal education delivery. Instead, our school staff are working extremely hard to provide a balance of sustainable and achievable learning programmes for all our children and young people whilst they work from home.

Wellbeing of All
During this challenging time, it is very important that we all take care of our physical and mental health; children, parents and all school staff. Keeping young minds active, happy and ready to return to school when the time comes is a very important factor and, within this, school staff should be mindful of their own health and well-being. We therefore advise all our school staff to ensure that they maintain a healthy work-life balance during what is likely to be an extended period of homeworking for staff and pupils. Everyone should take regular breaks during the day, doing some physical activity and spending time outdoors, within the limits of current national guidance on social distancing. Where possible, parents should encourage pupils to carry out their home learning in 'chunks' interspersed with play, physical and outdoor activities.

A variety of resources are available to support parent and child wellbeing, including:
UK Government guidance -
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak
Scottish Government –
https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-parents-and-families/

Learning expectations
Each of our schools is using an agreed online platform to deliver learning to our pupils e.g. See Saw and Google Classrooms. In addition, learning 'packs' were sent home with each child in the vast majority of our primary schools when they stopped on 20 March 2020. Work is ongoing to update home learning opportunities for pupils who do not have access to digital learning at home – schools will inform parents of these plans shortly.
Learning activities set by teaching staff will suit the age range and capabilities of their pupils. As a minimum, these will include Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing activities but at times may also include other curriculum areas e.g. science. Some teachers may set these tasks daily or issue tasks for the whole week to allow parents to work through them with their child where practicable and possible. Teachers will provide meaningful feedback on home learning activities as appropriate. Headteachers will allocate the provision of remote learning activities to a member of the senior leadership team for classes of pupils where staff have volunteered to work in one of our Hub schools.

Reporting
The above-mentioned feedback process will replace formal reporting schedules during the final term of school e.g. 'report cards'. The exception to this is that in a few schools, work on reports began prior to the current closure. As a result of the significant time and care taken by staff to produce these, schools will issue these reports to parents where they can and where these have been completed. Any updates on pupil progress required to be made via phone call should only be made to families who are not able to access feedback on digital platforms at home. Each school has their own arrangements in place for when phone calls to families are deemed necessary and these will be carried out using clear protocols which safeguard both pupils and staff.

Use of IT

As far as possible, where digital technology is being used to support learning and teaching at home, this should be familiar and accessible both to teachers and pupils. The use of approved, well-known and commonly used websites is encouraged. When considering any new online resource, staff must be mindful of current GDPR guidance around the use of personal/pupil information. It is recommended that both staff and pupils limit screen time to avoid visual fatigue.

Guidance for parents:

https://qz.com/1819866/how-to-manage-your-kids-screen-time-during-coronavirus/