**Remote Teaching and Learning Plan.**

In response to this time of uncertainty regarding school closures, we have formulated this document to outline how the school will maintain the link between school and home. In the event of another whole or partial school closure, we aim to continue to communicate with our pupils through various means.

We recognise that online safety is of huge importance and the aim of this document is to help to protect both school staff and pupils, while teaching and learning online.

The primary obligation of all schools is to the welfare of the learners in their school. This document seeks to ensure that remote learning is safe for all student learners and that personal and sensitive data is also protected under GDPR legislation. Schools must ensure that learning takes place in an environment that is respectful and fair and meets its statutory duties.

**Context**Teaching and Learning is always evolving, especially, as we move deeper into the 21st century. Developments in IT provide us all with great opportunities as learners and teachers. Never has there been greater scope to learn using technology and it continues to change the learning relationship between teachers and students. Advances in technology mean that assignments can be delivered remotely and that greater access to information on the internet affords the opportunities for real learning to take place under the watchful and professional guidance of the teacher. However, whether a child is being directed remotely or via a traditional classroom environment, it is very important that all partners are aware that once a learning exchange takes place between a student and teacher, whether at home or school, the same statutory rules apply i.e. the school’s Code of Positive Behaviour and all of the school’s policies apply.

We recognise that online collaboration is essential for distance learning and that families are in favour of increased opportunities to maintain the connection between school and home. Scoil Phádraig uses a variety of child friendly, online tools, which assist in providing more effective teaching and learning, while also enabling greater communication between staff, families and students.

**Guidelines for good online communication in National School:**

1. Staff, families, and students are expected to behave in an appropriate, safe, respectful and kind manner online.
2. It is the duty of parents/guardians to supervise children while they are working online and to ensure that any content submitted to their teacher is appropriate.
3. Staff members will communicate with pupils and their families through an established app (e.g. Aladdin or Seesaw).
4. Any electronic forms of communication will be for educational purposes and to allow for communication with families.
5. Students and staff will communicate using tools which have been approved by the school and of which parents have been notified (Seesaw and Aladdin)
6. Parental permission has been acquired before setting up a profile for a pupil on a communication forum.
7. For security reasons, passwords will be provided to families, where applicable.
8. Scoil Phádraig cannot accept responsibility for the security of online platforms, in the event that they are compromised.

Scoil Phádraig will use two online platforms for communicating and connecting with families/pupils. Our ‘Remote Teaching and Learning Plan’ may include a combination of assigned work and/or pre-recorded lessons. (Seesaw and Aladdin)

1: **School App**: Aladdin

Staff will communicate regularly with parents and pupils via the school Aladdin App. All families are asked to download the Aladdin app and to check it daily for updates and important information. Teachers will post work for pupils each day on the app.

Parental queries will be addressed by school staff during school hours and should relate to your child's teaching and learning.

2: **Seesaw:**

*Seesaw Class App* is for our pupils to connect to their folder and they then have the option of uploading items to their folder for their teacher to see. This app is used in all classes and requires a QR code which will be sent from the school. Parental consent has been sought through Aladdin. Each child will be assigned an individual access code. Unfortunately, single family log in is not facilitated on Seesaw. Some lessons may be pre -recorded and uploaded via Seesaw.

**Rules for pupils using online communication methods:**

For submitting learning:

1. Submit work and pictures that are appropriate - have an adult look at your work before you send it.
2. Use kind and friendly words.

**Guidelines for parents and guardians:**

For learning

1. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to ensure that pupils are supervised while they work online.
2. Check over the work which pupils send to their teacher, ensuring it is appropriate.
3. Continue to revise online safety measures with pupils.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Students:**

* Check assigned work each week
* The normal school calendar will apply
* The following school policies apply to remote teaching and learning:

- Code of Behaviour

- Anti- Bullying Policy

- Acceptable Use Policy

* Teaching and Learning best practice will continue to apply, with students expected to present all assignments to the best of their ability and on time, where possible in this evolving and unprecedented situation
  + In so far as possible, provision for SEN students will be made when using Remote Learning methodologies.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Parents**

* We ask parents/guardians to ensure protocols for students are adhered to
* Check-in on their child’s school work on a daily basis and talk to their child about the work being assigned
* The health and wellbeing of all is paramount. Circumstances may change for any of us unexpectedly, teachers or parents, so please keep schooling in perspective and do not allow anything school related to impinge on your child negatively. You are the primary educator of your child and you make those calls. We encourage a little work every week day for routine. We provide work and guidance and ask parents and pupils to do their best and that is all.

**Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols for Teachers**

* Check uploaded work
* Communication may only take place during normal school hours
* The normal school calendar will apply.
* Teaching and Learning best practice will continue to apply with students expected to present all assignments to the best of their ability and on time, where possible.

**Please note that the current situation is quite fluid and these circumstances may vary or change.**

**Summary:**

→Do what you can, within your circumstances. Forget about following books and workbooks outside of the work set by teachers.

→There will be no schoolwork set for planned school closures/holidays.

→ Please keep abreast of postings on the school app or email– it is our main mode of communication going forward.

→We ask parents/guardians, students and teachers to ensure protocols are adhered to at all times.

→If you have yet to connect to any of the on-line platforms/school App, please do so. If you are experiencing difficulties, please email the school and we will assist you in any way that we can and please contact the school with any further queries you may have.

We thank the school community for adhering to the above guidelines for everyone’s safety and welfare.

Please use the email address [scoil@ballyhale.com](mailto:scoil@ballyhale.com) if you need to contact me directly.

Kind regards,

Tomás O Dowd.

**\*Recommended Apps**

In addition to a pared back plan of work for your child/children, we suggest the following Apps for your child’s use too, if you can access them. If not, do not worry, they are helpful but not essential.

* **Cúla 4:** Excellent for younger pupils for Irish vocab – very child friendly. There are also videos of your children’s favourite cartoons here as Gaeilge which would be useful to watch occasionally to keep up with Irish
* **Duolingo:** most suitable from 2nd class upwards. Excellent app. Tests your child’s Irish ability level at the start and they work away at their own level for 10mins daily
* **Mathduel:** For tables. Fun and interactive
* **Starfall:** For spellings. Again, very child friendly and useful to keep spellings progressing without feeling like schoolwork
* **Jolly Phonics App:** to keep up phonics learning for infant classes
* **Dolch words Apps:** (there is a wide range available): for the development of sight words
* **Nessy Apps:** for reading for pupils with dyslexia or difficulties
* **PinkFong:** Digital stories for infant classes. Excellent and engaging
* **Khan Academy:** Useful for maths for older pupils especially
* **Kahoot:** for general knowledge and quizzes
* **Toontastic:** probably the best app ever for digital storytelling – pupils can devise their own digital story, picking a range of characters, settings, even musical background. They plan a beginning, middle and end to their story and can record their own voices to tell the story
* **Puppetpals:** similar to toontastic – useful for younger pupils. They can record themselves telling the story also
* **Lightbot** – Coding app – super for all ages.