

Distance Learning Policy

The Bellbird Primary School



Approved by:	Full Governing Body	Date: 10.9.25
Last reviewed on:	Reviewed in autumn 2025	
Next review due by:	Autumn 2028	

1. Aims

This distance learning policy aims to:

- Ensure consistency in the approach to distance learning for pupils who are not in school
- Set out expectations for all members of the school community with regards to distance learning
- Ensure the statutory obligations to provide distance education are met
- Provide appropriate guidelines for data protection

2. Distance Learning Expectations

The DfE expects schools to:

- Teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with clear progression
- Select a digital platform for consistent distance education delivery
- Provide devices and printed resources where digital access is a barrier
- Identify pupils who may need in-person provision
- Check pupil engagement daily and intervene where necessary
- Appoint a senior leader responsible for quality assurance of distance learning
- Providing that the child is well enough/ sufficiently able to access learning, then the school-provided learning is completed.

Schools must:

- Set meaningful, ambitious daily work in a range of subjects
- Provide teaching time equal to school-based lessons:
 - KS1: 3 hours/day
 - KS2: 4 hours/day
- Ensure effective distance teaching methods including:
 - Clear explanations

- Interactive elements
- Scaffolded practice and timely feedback

Consideration should be given to age, development and SEND needs. Digital methods may not suit all learners, especially younger children and those with SEND.

3. Scope of Policy

This policy applies in these circumstances:

3.1 Individual child or family self-isolating/ Individual child not attending due to ill health (provided that they are well enough/ able to access the learning)

- Admin team notifies SLT
- Distance learning provided via Oak Academy resources/ teacher to provide work that the class is currently completing
- Printed materials used if IT access is unavailable

3.2 Class, Year Group or Bubble Isolating – Large groups of children absent

- Parents informed
- Teams sessions provided with this schedule:
 - 9:00 - Reading/phonics
 - 9:30 - English
 - 10:45 - Maths
 - 1:00 - Foundation subject
- Afternoon task completed offline; staff available on Teams until 3:00pm

3.3 Whole School Closure (Local/National Lockdown)

- Online learning becomes the norm
- Lessons via Teams

- Printed support books available
- Key worker/vulnerable pupils attend on-site with distance access supported

3.4 One-off Closure

- Offline learning set for one day – utilising Oak Academy resources
- Followed up in class the next day