

Loan Devices ref. Blended/Remote Learning

Dear Parent/Carer,

Remote learning is where the children and the teacher are not physically present in the classroom. The teacher provides information, lessons and activities through an online platform. An effective home-school online platform allows communication between the teacher and the children, in a managed and well communicated way.

Blended learning in its current guise as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, occurs when some children in a class may be at home participating in remote learning while some children are in school receiving face-to-face instruction from the teacher.

Possible scenarios during the current 2020-2021 academic year:

- Whole class/school having to isolate at home for a period of time;
- Children in a class learning at home due to medical conditions or self-isolating due to Covid19;
- Online homework (Seesaw/Google Classroom) in place of or complementing traditional paper homework.

In the event of a prolonged school closure or children having to self-isolate due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have a limited number of devices (Laptops/Chromebooks) available to lend out to those pupils who do not have sufficient access to a digital device and who have the greatest need.

First priority will be given initially to those pupils in Years 4 & 7 who request a device in the order of priority as listed below by DE:

1. Pupils entitled to Free School Meals;
2. Pupils on the SEN Register Stages 5 → 1
3. Newcomer children
4. Looked After Children;
5. Children who are considered vulnerable¹ – see DE definition below.

Once the different criteria have been applied to Years 4 & 7, the same criteria will be applied to pupils in the other Year groups who do not have sufficient access to a device.

The School Office will prepare the paperwork which the parents must sign up to before a device is allowed to be lent out (Loan Agreement/Pupil Usage Agreement/Acceptable Use Agreement) etc.

If you would like to be considered for a 'loan device' please fill in the attached pro-forma and either return it to the Office or email it to hglenn520@c2ken.net as soon as possible.

Thanking you in anticipation of your co-operation with these matters.



T R McMaster B.Ed. MBE
Principal.

1 The term "vulnerable" encompasses those children who are in need of protection, or in need, as defined by the Children (NI) Order 1995. Children and young people in need may include those: • Receiving support from Health & Social Services including family support, child protection and looked after children services; • On the Child Protection Register; • With statements of special education needs; • Accessing Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAS); • Accessing Education Nurture Units; • With emerging and diagnosed mental health needs; • Who are homeless; • Who are young carers; • Subject to paramilitary threat; • Whose parents have mental health problems; • Whose parents have alcohol and drug addictions; • Affected by domestic violence.