

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now had students back in school for 6 weeks and it has been wonderful to see them again. They have adapted well to the new routines and year group bubbles and it is so lovely to be back in the classroom with them all - we continue to be very proud of our Ecco family.

### **Remote Learning Strategy**

I write today as I would like to outline our remote learning commitment should the need arise for your child(ren) to self-isolate, or in the event of bubbles or year group absence. Whilst staff and students have worked tirelessly over the lockdown months, we now want to ensure that we have an even stronger, and more streamlined remote learning offer in place, in order to best support your child(ren). Thank you to all parent/carers who offered feedback over the last few months – your guidance has been invaluable, and you have helped shape our remote learning offer moving forward. I would also like to thank my wonderful colleagues who have remained as positive and hard-working as ever, whilst we have all been getting to grips with a whole new world of technology!

### **What does our Remote Learning Commitment look like?**

As you will see, we have split our commitment into two areas; whole year group isolation/absence and individual student isolation and you will find further information on the attached documentation. In short, for individual absence, work will be set via email or via Microsoft Teams and some feedback will be given to your child over a two-week absence. If and where there is a need for an entire year group to self-isolate, teachers will offer some live teaching (via Microsoft Teams) where possible and/or some pre-recorded and/or independent work. The amount of work and feedback offered from each subject will be dependant upon curriculum time and the nature of the subject. In practical subjects, for example, there will likely be more pre-recorded lessons delivered.

### **What can I do to best support my child?**

We strongly recommend preparing for any potential absence by downloading the apps discussed on the attached handouts. If you have access to a device at home, we would encourage all parents/carers and students to download Office365 from <https://office.com/> and to have Microsoft Teams and Microsoft Outlook downloaded onto the device. This is free of charge to all students on roll. Microsoft Teams will ensure we can offer some live teaching, should year group bubbles be isolating. It will also be the platform on which we save students' work and on which we can set assignments and other tasks. Some teachers will also use Microsoft Stream to pre-record videos. These will either be added to Teams or sent to your child(ren) via email but you will not need to download anything in advance. Please find more information attached.

### **What do I do if I do not have access to a laptop or desktop computer?**

We have built our remote learning strategy around minimal device access e.g. if students have access to a smartphone or tablet they can access the remote learning. They may need to complete written work on paper but the tasks do not need to be completed on a computer. Completed learning on paper should be returned to school and given to your child's teacher. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's Progress Leader.

### **How can we help you?**

As well as our YouTube channel (found at 'Ecclesfield School'), we will be using our website to store 'How to' videos, further guidance and our remote learning commitments. Here you will find videos

explaining how to download the Microsoft Outlook app (to access emails) as well as how to use Microsoft Teams. Please familiarise yourself with this training and support material. All information can be found on our school website – [www.ecclesfield-school.com](http://www.ecclesfield-school.com) - by clicking on the 'Curriculum' tab at the top of the page, followed by 'Remote Learning' or by clicking here: <https://ecclesfield-school.com/curriculum/remote-learning-september-2020>

### **E-Safety and Behaviour Conduct Online**

Your child's safety is our number one priority. Please note the following:

- During live lessons, cameras must be switched off and students should mute themselves unless they are asked otherwise by their teacher.
- The chat function should only be used to discuss the learning taking place.
- Students must use their school account to join a live lesson. Equally, they must use their school account to email work to teachers.
- Any live lessons taking place will be recorded to ensure the safety of all and to ensure students who are unable to attend can access the learning at a later date.
- We expect your child's behaviour and conduct online to be exemplary at all times and any behavioural concerns will be dealt with as appropriate and by following school policy and protocols.

We thank you in advance for reiterating these important messages to your child(ren) and know that you will understand that in order for online Teaching and Learning to run effectively, and most importantly safely, we must all continue to educate our students about e-safety. If you have any concerns about your child's online safety, please contact the school as soon as possible by emailing [enquiries@eccoschool.com](mailto:enquiries@eccoschool.com)

As we all get to grips with this new way of working, I would like to pass on my thanks to you all for your continued support. It certainly has been a challenging few months but together, we are stronger.

Please do contact me with any questions you may have.  
Stay safe,



Caroline Fancett  
Deputy Headteacher – Teaching and Learning