



The Consortium Trust

Where together excellence and pupils thrive

Home Learning in Exceptional Circumstances Policy Addendum

Covid-19 Pandemic Response

1. The following addendum to the Trust's Home Learning for Exceptional Circumstances Policy will come into force on the 1st June 2020 and will remain in place until the end of the Covid-19 pandemic or when revoked by the Trust Board.
2. The addendum will be reviewed by the Director of Primary Education and the Executive Team routinely and will make recommendations to retain or revoke based on the evidence and need in our schools.

3. Principles

During the various stages of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic the Trust has offered online learning opportunities. The Trust has been clear that opportunities posted on the online classrooms are not designed to fully replace the school educational experience, rather they are designed to offer parents support for home learning. As we move into the next phase of opening schools to more than our vulnerable pupils and the children of essential workers, our online classrooms will be adapted. The Trust is committed to offering a full educational experience to those pupils identified by the Government to return to school on 1.6.20 as well as continuing with the current offer to children of essential workers and vulnerable pupils. The changes to our online learning platform are necessary due to the need for many more teachers and support staff to be working in schools who will, therefore, not be available to facilitate online learning.

4. Expectations for Pupils and Families

Each pupil will continue to have access to the online learning platform in the same way as they do now. Their class teacher may continue to post messages to the class and the weekly wellbeing survey will also be available. Within each classroom there will be a weekly folder where staff from across the Trust will post year-group appropriate learning opportunities, including relevant links to Bite Size, Oak Learning Academy and other online resources. Your child should be able to access a maths and English activity each day along with daily suggestions for activities in other subject areas such as history, art and PE. During the next phase of school opening there will be no facility to provide feedback on your child's work, however work shared with the Horizon's Home Time team may be published in the weekly celebration of pupil's home learning. Please send photographs of work to: Laura Rogers l.rogers@consortiumacademy.org

The Trust does not have an expectation regarding the amount of time or work that each pupil should undertake. As previously stated, families should engage with home learning in a way that suits their family, their commitments and other interests.

5. Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND)

Parent/carers of pupils with SEND should expect to be contacted by their pupil's teacher or the SEND coordinator to discuss the online work available. It is possible, if appropriate, for pupils to be provided with access to online learning from different year groups.

6. Paper Packs

Parents/carers should contact the school if they require any paper packs of the work that is uploaded onto the online classroom. This can be collected from the school office at an agreed time.

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www.consortiumacademy.org. Tel.No: 01986 835670. Email: businesssupport@consortiumacademy.org

Principal & CEO: Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne. Email: principal@consortiumacademy.org



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7. Expectations for Staff

Staff who are not deployed to work in a school setting will be expected to be available to provide online learning opportunities for pupils across the Trust. At times this may mean that teachers are planning and preparing resources for multiple G-Classrooms. Staff will be directed as to which G-Classroom and or which subject they are responsible for. The 'normal' classroom teacher is expected to offer the weekly wellbeing survey to pupils as before, they may also wish to post messages and/or host class conference call so that they can keep in touch with their class.

8. Keeping Safe – Videos and Conferencing Calling

We have now had G-Suite configured so that staff can set up and host conference calls with pupils in their class or from across their school. Only staff can set up conference calls, and they have the ability to remove pupils from the call. The expectations around virtual class behaviour during conferencing remains the same as in the real classroom. Pupils will be expected to be respectful to each other and use the facility to discuss learning and or wellbeing as directed by the member of staff. Pupils will be expected to use hands up (or similar) to be able to contribute to the conversations and the staff member will direct who is contributing, just as you would expect in the classroom. For conferencing it is expected that two members of school staff are available on the call, one maybe there for monitoring purposes only.

8.1 Parents and Video Conferencing

Parents are of course welcome to be present when their child is on a group call, however we would ask parents not to get involved in learning discussions, however for our youngest pupils it might be appropriate for parents to support their child to participate in the conversations. Each week information about online safety is published in our Horizon Home Times parent letter. Please find the link to a guide for Video Calling included in Horizon Home Times

<https://consortiumacademy.co.uk/suffolk/primary/consortium-mat/site/pages/cpdtraining/hhtwc180520/videocalling>

This guide is particularly useful and considers aspects of video calling including, backgrounds and the main principles around using the platform respectfully.

Should parents have anything they want to ask or raise this should be done in the normal way via email (in the first instance to the class teacher) not during a conference call.

9. Safeguarding

Safeguarding considerations remain unaffected, see Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

[https://consortiumacademy.co.uk/suffolk/primary/consortium-](https://consortiumacademy.co.uk/suffolk/primary/consortium-mat/arenas/websitecontent/web/cmatsafeguardingandchildprotectionpolicy-oct2019v5.pdf)

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Addendum Author: Tamsin Little, Director of Primary Education. 21st May 2020

Agreed by special resolution: Trust Board Meeting, 28th May 2020 (tbc)

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