

Warrington Primary Academy Trust Digital Strategy

Across all schools within our Trust we strive to ensure that every child has access to a computer device to ensure they can access learning resources from home. This represents the Trust's commitment to digital equity and equal opportunities for our learners, regardless of the home that they come from or the WPAT School they attend. Access to the best resources that we can create or source online, along with the skills to navigate them successfully, will mean all our students are better prepared for whatever they face during their education and life beyond the school gates.

Our digital strategy has eight key aims:

- To provide **more time for learning** both in and outside of the classroom. We want to achieve this through supporting our academies in fostering a culture of home learning to supplement the time students spend in the classroom. Used wisely and efficiently, we can use digital tools to decrease teacher workload and increase the time it takes our teachers to respond to students' work
- To enable our learners to use digital technology to **personalise their learning journey**. Having their own device at home means they can independently explore additional learning opportunities and using adaptive learning platforms and online quizzing tools to close knowledge gaps
- To leverage technology to **remove as many barriers to learning as possible**, using translation and immersive reading tools and enabling students to learn at a pace more suitable for deeper learning
- To initiate a **free virtual 'catch up' tuition programme** that will allow our students to gain equity with their more advantaged peers whose parents have the financial capacity to employ personal tutors
- To develop a high quality and **comprehensive on-line safety programme** for our educators, students, families and the wider community
- To use technology to **empower and engage parents**, bringing home and school closer together. The extended virtual home-school partnership will energise our communities' perception of learning forming a major part of the Trust's drive to help develop community cohesion infrastructures. We will use the technology to enable teachers and parents to have better quality conversations about their progress. We will provide our parents with password protected 'read only' access to web-based curriculum materials so that they can gain a greater insight into their child's learning and provide more opportunities for them to see the learning process
- To **reduce teacher workload** by reducing the time spent on administrative tasks and encouraging the greater sharing of resources such as lesson plans, worksheets and quizzes to lower lesson preparation time
- To improve **teacher professional development** by making better use of communication platforms to produce cross-trust training and allowing all teachers of the same discipline to regularly meet as one faculty across the Trust. Without great teachers, a strong curriculum, robust assessment, and time to train and plan, digital tools will not have the impact that we seek

Our response to the pandemic, and distribution of IT devices to those students that need them has created an opportunity to rethink the manner in which we act. Our online learning strategy (appendix 1) underpins our digital strategy by allowing us to react to varying scenarios and utilise our digital approach throughout periods of disruption to learning. As we grow, the Trust will continue to consider technology where evidence suggests it may decrease teacher workload, improve the quality of student learning and develop closer links between home and school.

Appendix 1 – Online Learning Strategy

On 2nd July 2020, the DfE published their Guidance for the full opening of schools. Their guidance outlined the expectations that **‘remote education may need to be an essential component in the delivery of the school curriculum for some pupils, alongside classroom teaching, or in the case of a local lockdown’**

This strategy document will be monitored throughout the course of the academic year and amended in line with any future guidance issued by the DfE.

WPAT endeavours to ensure that each school within the Trust has robust, easy to invoke plans in place to ensure that any pupils being educated at home for a variety of reasons (shielding, quarantine, lock down etc.) are given the support they need to access a broad, balanced curriculum that is relevant & impactful to ensure they continue to make good progress.

Primarily, our aim is to have a strategy/contingency plans in place that provides us with capacity to offer remote education despite logistical challenges imposed due to large numbers of children isolating at home or local/national lockdowns.

Schools within the Trust will work with parents and carers to ensure provision offered by our schools can be managed at home with ease.

Our strategy is a 3 tiered approach based on the differing scenarios that may occur.

<p>Level 1</p> <p>Pupils are isolating unable to come in to school but are well enough to access learning or have other non covid related reasons they are unable to attend school i.e. Broken leg or recovering from an operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In September 2020/21, teachers will ensure all children/parents are aware of these plans, outlining expectations and to urge they check access to software & resources in the event they are required • Children accessing home learning digitally will receive same offer as in school. Classes will be live streamed or uploaded to TEAMS/GOOGLE CLASSROOM etc. by class teacher Daily timetables will be prepared and uploaded for guidance • Work, documents and relevant learning links uploaded and stored for all subject areas taught • Access to daily live streaming of Phonics, English, Spelling and Maths delivered by class teacher and/or TA's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All lessons recorded will be saved on Teams and available for parents/carers to access when suitable due to logistics with childcare, devices, home internet bandwidth etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Portfolios will allow pupils to upload work to and receive feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Feedback and assessment of learning to be offered in various ways i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the lesson, children ‘at home’ can ask questions, use chat, answer questions, make suggestions and be included as if in the classroom. ○ Teaching assistants from the year group will support that group by being online during the lessons, asking and answering questions, supporting the teaching element, supporting learners, responding to written comments. ○ If only a few children are at home, they will be on the screen in the classroom and can put up their hand on Teams, so teacher can see this. <input type="checkbox"/> Workbook & stationary packs delivered to home if required <input type="checkbox"/> Check in via phone from class teacher or TA to offer additional support as required
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Use of communication tools e.g. Dojo □ Online engagement monitoring of home learners tracked via daily registers and weekly engagement overview. Schools will follow up with parents/carers when children are absent to overcome any learning barriers
<p>Level 2</p> <p>The entire school bubble is isolating at home including the teaching staff.</p>	<p>Same offering as above in Level 1 however all learning will be delivered from home assuming class teacher and TA are well*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of IT equipment to families that need it • Issue paper packs on request however WPAT strongly encourage ‘digital’ engagement • Support and promote consistent communication • Assess the needs of SEND and vulnerable pupils and adapt as required • Produce and upload weekly timetables to support parents and carers <p>*If the class teacher is unwell an ‘In house buddy teacher’ approach will be adopted to ensure work is uploaded and teaching continuous. The following contingency measures will be actioned in the event of this scenario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All LTP and MTPs shared ○ Basic skills packages created ○ Set Maths & English Units will be followed ○ Guided reading will be uploaded ○ Weekly plans for Spelling lessons ○ Foundation subjects will follow standard WPAT KO’s and MTP’s <p>In addition to the ‘In house buddy teacher’ model, we will have a ‘MAT wide buddy teacher’ model that allows teachers & TA’s across our schools to support as required in the event of staff being unfit for work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and fine tune emergency package until a supply cover can be established to deliver live lessons
<p>Level 3</p> <p>Local or whole school lockdown.</p> <p>(WPAT expects that in the event of a local lockdown, the children of key workers and vulnerable children will continue to attend school)</p>	<p>Same learning offering as above in Level 1 & 2 however this applies to all classes in the school.</p> <p>Schools will also be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate a rota identifying staff for key worker bubbles in school including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff to be in school for vulnerable and key worker children - Staff working from home delivering and supporting home learning - Staff identified as extremely clinically vulnerable and or ill unable to work from home or school • Maintain minimum numbers of staff to reduce possibility or spread of infection • All statutory checks - Fire Wardens, DSL and First Aiders will be in school and identified on rota <p>Expectation is when staff are in school supporting Key worker bubbles they will live stream lessons for their specific class/year group</p>

Numerous resources will be required by schools to support the delivery of this strategy. They include, but are not restricted to the following:

- Laptops/iPads for teachers to assist in the delivery of teaching from school and/or home
- Interactive whiteboard to support lesson delivery in the classroom
- Laptops for children without personal devices at home
- Access to Microsoft TEAMS for all relevant staff and pupils
- Access to various virtual learning platforms & essential learning & communication tools □
Access to a range of online resources

WPAT will monitor the issuing of school devices via Laptop/iPad Agreements issued to parents, whilst also carefully ensuring that E-Safety Policies are amended to reflect any changes.



Laptop and Ipad
Agreement with parents

Our schools will continue to keep open communication channels with parents and carers, ensuring they are kept up to speed and have the opportunity to provide feedback throughout.

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