



SEND Amendments to SEND policy for Remote Learning Provision During a Period of School Closure

The following amendments are made to the provision and support of students with identified Special Educational Needs and Disabilities as defined in the Ridgeway Farm CE Academy SEND and Inclusion Policy.

Remote Provision of SEND students

1. Remote support

- 1.1 Where an existing EHCP is in place, or an EHC assessment is ongoing, the SENCO will contact the parents of any pupil learning remotely each week. The SENCO will offer advice, support and resources required to assist the pupil in their home-learning.
- 1.2 The SENCO will provide phone consultations and/or video meetings with parents of those children with SEND, or those with suspected SEND, as necessary or as concerns arise.
- 1.3 The SENCO will consult with any relevant professionals or outside agencies necessary in order to obtain the support or guidance SEND children need. This includes the completion of referrals to outside agencies and transition support for any pupils with SEND if necessary.
- 1.4 The school, class teachers and SENCO will make reasonable adjustments to the home learning provision in order to support SEND pupils. This might include providing differentiated work or supporting with resources.
- 1.5 Where appropriate, alternative provision will be sought for those SEND pupils whose needs cannot be met safely at home or in the provision onsite.

2. Applying a Graduated Approach during remote Learning

Ridgeway Farm CE Academy will continue to apply the Graduated Approach to support students identified with SEND.

- 2.1 Staff will make their best endeavours to continue to assess the needs of pupils as per the set process and procedures outlined in the SEND Policy.
- 2.2 If pupils are home learning, all teachers of SEND pupils will monitor pupils' participation and ensure they have regular contact. Children will have the opportunity for daily contact to discuss learning via a virtual platform. Any concerns of the teacher regarding an SEND pupil will be reported as per the Safeguarding Policy.
- 2.3 Reviews of Statutory My Support Plans (EHCPs) will take place in consultation with parents via phone or virtual platform. If the pupil is being educated at home, the parent will obtain the views of the pupil. Outside agencies and professionals will continue to be invited to join the review meetings.

Additions and targets will be reviewed and amended and sent to the parents and Local Authority. Records will be kept in the pupil's file in school.

2.3 Where appropriate whilst home learning, My Support Plans will be reviewed via phone consultations with parents.

2.3 Updates of pupil provision will be communicated to all relevant staff via the SENCO. Adaptations and sign posting of specific resources for remote learning will be communicated by SENCO.

2.4 Ridgeway Farm CE Academy will continue to work closely with other education provisions who provide support for their pupils. They recognise the increased importance of keeping connected with our students during this time, and the heightened need for mental health and wellbeing of our students working with additional agencies.

2.5 Pastoral contact with pupils will be through weekly class video meetings with their class teacher and another school adult. If a child does not participate in the video meeting, class teachers will telephone or email the pupil's parents. The families of all children with an EHCP will be contacted by the SENCO weekly. The school will make its best endeavours to maintain a sense of community and connection with peers during the period of school closure.

3. Parent, family, carer support

Ridgeway Farm CE Academy continues to value the families, parents and carers of pupils as being a vital provision in the support of the child. With this in mind, we recognise the need to support our families despite this time of school closure.

3.1 The school will stay in close contact with all parents, sending regular Keeping In Touch communications and establishing class and SENCO email addresses for parents to use to contact staff. Home learning will be provided on the Purple Mash platform and through daily pre-teaching video calls. Parents are encouraged to contact the school with any queries.

3.2 The school will have resources to support families during local lockdown or bubble lockdown available on their website for parents to be able to access. This will include signposts to mental health and well-being support and relevant agencies.

3.3 Sign posting of appropriate support or provision will continue to be communicated via the SENCO according to the specific needs of the pupil and in accordance with existing individual plans and EHCPs in place. This will enable clear support within the stipulated targets of the plan. The SENCO will offer guidance through this provision, which will seek to sign post areas of support open to the choice of the main care giver (usually parents).

4. Returning to School

The safety of the pupils at Ridgeway Farm CE Academy is of paramount importance to the school. The school will support all SEND pupils with a return to school, when it is safe for them to do so.

4.1. In the event of a school closure, the school will adhere to the guidance provided by the government. They will update their procedures in accordance to any updates to government guidance.

4.2 At the time of a local lockdown school closure, all pupils will be assessed to ensure that they were safe to remain at home. Those who were not deemed safe at home will be offered a place in the emergency provision. In the event of a bubble lockdown, no pupils will be able to attend school. Any safeguarding concerns would be reported as per the safeguarding policy.

4.3 In local lockdown, all pupils with an EHCP will have an individual risk assessment, completed by the SENCO, prior to their attendance at school. Other children with SEND may also have an individual risk assessment, if appropriate.

4.4 If it is not deemed safe for a SEND pupil to return to school at any given time, the school, SENCO and class teacher will continue to offer the remote support outlined in section 1 above.

4.5 The school will make reasonable adjustments to provision to support children with their return to school. Examples might include the use of an Adapted Timetable.

4.6 In local lockdown, where appropriate, alternative provision will be sought for those SEND pupils whose needs cannot be met safely at home.

Definitions

Local lockdown – the school has been instructed by the government to close the whole school, but they may be required to provide emergency onsite provision for critical workers and vulnerable children.

Bubble lockdown – the school must close one or more of its ‘bubbles’ (groups) due to a positive confirmed case of Covid-19. This will not require the whole site to be closed.

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