



# Heanor Gate Science College – Blended Learning Policy November 2020



## Rationale

Following the return to school for all students in September 2020, Heanor Gate Science College is committed to providing a continuation of high quality education to its students, in line with government guidelines and expectations. This will be achieved through a process of blended learning which would particularly apply in a situation in which the school is closed for an extended period of time or when an individual or group of students have an extended period of absence. The aim of this policy is to consider the practical implementation of blended learning across a number of eventualities in order to ensure pupils, teachers, parents and other stakeholders are clear about expectations and responsibilities.

## Remote Learning

In the event of a school closure or extended absence, HGSC will provide continuity of learning using the following blended approach:

- The provision of work (**via Google Classroom**) that students submit electronically;
- Feedback and assessment of specific assignments;
- Regular direct contact with teachers through **Google Meets**. This may be 'live' lessons or the opportunity for students to ask questions.

As far as possible, students will be expected to follow the assessment calendar within school and provision will be made to ensure that KS4 and KS5 classes are able to meet the assessment requirements for their qualifications.

## Specific approaches for scenarios where blended learning may be required:

### Teacher absence due to self or family isolation

Provided that they are well enough to do so, the staff member will be expected to set work for Key Stage 3 classes using the normal absence procedure. The lesson will then be delivered by a cover teacher. For examination groups, provision will be put in place for teachers to deliver lessons remotely, either through a 'live' or pre-recorded session.

If the teacher is unwell and unable to work, cover work would be set by another member of the subject faculty.

### Pupil absence due to self or family isolation

Using Google Classroom, the teacher will upload work which is in-line with the work being completed by students who are in school. Once students have submitted this work, teachers will offer online feedback as necessary.

### Year group bubbles working at home due to track and trace or partial school closure

If a year group is required to work from home, their full timetable will be delivered via online lessons on Google Meet. The codes for these Google Meet sessions will be shared by teachers on Google Classroom. These online lessons will follow our HGSC Teaching and Learning Framework and will either be 'live' or pre-recorded.

### Full school closure

As with a partial school closure, a full school closure will lead to students having their full timetable delivered online via Google Meets. The codes for these Google Meet sessions will be shared by teachers on Google

Classroom. These online lessons will follow our HGSC Teaching and Learning Framework and will either be 'live' or pre-recorded.

We will follow government guidelines regarding provision for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.

### Expectations of Teachers

- To set appropriate work in accordance with current schemes of learning and exam board specifications which allows students to progress broadly at the same pace as if they were in school;
- To provide timely and constructive feedback on submitted work;
- Unless there are extenuating circumstances, teachers will be expected to respond to correspondence from colleagues, parents and students during usual working hours;
- To follow the safeguarding protocols set out below.

### Expectations of Students

- To participate as fully as possible in the remote learning process. This includes attending 'live' lessons, completing work set and submitting work promptly;
- To read (and respond where relevant) to any communication from the school;
- To contact teachers if any element of the set work is unclear.

### Pastoral Care

In the event of a school closure, although the primary responsibility for pastoral care lies with parents/guardians, Achievement Leaders and Assistant Achievement Leaders will be contactable to assist with concerns regarding academic progress and wellbeing. The Achievement Team will make direct contact with all vulnerable students at least once a week.

### Safeguarding

In the event of a school closure, teachers, parents and pupils are reminded that the school's [Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy](#) still applies to all interactions between pupils and teachers. Further specific guidance can also be found in the [Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy Addendum \(COVID-19\)](#). In these policies, there are specifically prohibited behaviours and reporting obligations to which teachers must adhere, whether at home, in school or in the community.