



Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust

Statement Title:	BBCET Remote Learning Guidance to Schools
Date of Publication:	October 2025
Applies to:	All school & Trust settings

Rationale

This guidance sets out the Trust-wide approach to remote learning for short-term closures (e.g. severe weather), longer-term disruption (e.g. pandemic) and for pupils who cannot attend school due to health needs.

In partial school closures, schools will adapt class groupings where possible to ensure that as many pupils as possible can continue to attend in person.

Aims

The aim of this guidance is to:

- Ensure clarity of approach to remote learning across the Trust.
- Support safeguarding and wellbeing through continued engagement.
- Provide appropriate guidance in relation to data protection.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding will always remain a priority. In the event of remote learning:

- Staff will maintain regular contact with families to support wellbeing and engagement.
- Any concerns will be recorded and followed up in line with each school's safeguarding procedures and the BBCET GDPR policy.
- Leaders will review family engagement regularly to ensure additional support can be offered where needed.

Roles and Responsibilities

In the event of a short-term closure, longer-term closure, or when individual pupils are unable to attend school due to health needs, the following responsibilities will apply:

- **Headteachers** will lead the school's response to remote learning during closures. They will provide guidance to staff, pupils, and families, and will communicate how remote learning can be accessed and who to contact for support. For pupils with health needs, Headteachers will ensure statutory requirements are followed and that provision is coordinated in line with government and local authority guidance.
- **School staff** will, as directed, set work, monitor pupil engagement and welfare, and escalate concerns in line with safeguarding procedures. Schools will identify a named contact (e.g. DSL or pastoral lead) for pupils with health needs and will make this known to families.

**Short-Term Closure**

During short-term, unplanned, closures e.g. snow days, schools will provide appropriate learning activities (at the direction of the Headteacher).

Longer-Term or Planned Closure

In the event of an extended closure, schools must:

- Ensure pupils have access to suitable resources, including online platforms where appropriate.
- Provide regular opportunities for pupils to engage with teachers through live or recorded sessions.
- Offer personalised approaches where needed, ensuring pupils with additional needs continue to receive support.

Pupils Unable to Attend School Due to Health Needs

Some pupils may be unable to attend school due to physical or mental health needs.

- Where a pupil is absent for 15 school days or more (consecutively or cumulatively) and cannot access suitable education via the school, the local authority has a statutory duty under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 to arrange alternative provision. Schools will notify the local authority when it is likely a pupil will be absent for 15 days or more, and will cooperate with families, medical professionals and the local authority to arrange provision and reintegration.
- Pupils with medical conditions will receive individual consideration. Schools may use flexible arrangements, including remote learning and personalised resources.
- Where applicable, pupils with Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) will be reviewed regularly and shared with families.