

Blended Learning Policy 2020

Iceni Academy Methwold (ICS) is committed to providing uninterrupted curriculum provision for all students whether learning takes place in the academy, remotely or a combination of the two.

This policy should be read in conjunction with our Curriculum Policy.

Background

Following the March 2020 school closures as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, this policy has been written to ensure the ongoing education of MCA students under unusual circumstances. This policy aims to future-proof against closure while also covering the ongoing education of students who cannot be in the academy but are able to continue with their education while the academy remains open.

In line with DfE guidance, Remote Learning in the case of partial school closures means ICS staff will:

- Teach lessons 'live' on Microsoft Teams so that students have meaningful connections with their teachers and peers and are supported to complete ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects in line with their timetable.
- Where teachers are working in the academy supporting vulnerable and key worker 'bubbles', they will set work via Teams which will support students to complete work in that lesson. This could include written tasks, online platform work (Hegarty maths, GCSEPod, SAMLearning) and/or pre-recorded video content.
- Teach a planned and well-sequenced curriculum so that knowledge and skills are built incrementally, with a good level of clarity about what is intended to be taught and practised in each subject.
- Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher in the academy or through high-quality curriculum resources and/or videos.
- Gauge how well students are progressing through the curriculum, using questions and other suitable tasks and set a clear expectation on how regularly teachers will check work.
- Enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure students' understanding.
- Plan a programme that is of equivalent length to the core teaching students would receive in the academy, including daily contact with teachers.

Where the academy is forced to close to all students, face to face provision will continue for vulnerable students and the children of key workers wherever practicable.

All details of the academy's policy on staff responsibilities in terms of curriculum delivery, in the case of closure or partial closure, are covered in Appendix 1 [***Iceni Academy Methwold Blended Learning Action Plan: Staff***](#) and Appendix 2 [***Iceni Academy Methwold Blended Learning Action Plan: Parents/Carers and Students***](#)

Iceni Academy Methwold (ICS)

Whether working in the academy or remotely all other academy policies and procedures will continue to apply. Where amendments are required or made these will be set out in addendums which will be made available along with the original policies and procedures. In the event of COVID 19 closures information will be made available via a dedicated area on the academy website.

ICS will be proactive in ensuring:

- Staff have access to Microsoft Teams for classes and that these are set up
- Students within classes have access to the relevant Microsoft Team
- Students will receive Teams refresher sessions in lessons for KS3 and KS4
- Staff are familiar with the main functions of Microsoft Teams
- Staff have the ability to host a Teams Meeting (video and/or audio) with their classes either from their classrooms or from home
- Parents/carers and students are made aware in advance of the arrangements in place for the continuity of education
- IT devices will be provided to students who do not have access at home (where possible at all times but at the very least when a student is required to work from home. Where this is not possible suitable alternative provision which does not require IT access will be put in place.)