



Remote Learning Policy

This policy has been adopted by Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust and is applicable across all schools that make up the Trust. In line with the MAT's Scheme of Delegation, this Policy must be duly applied by each Local Governing Committee and the Headteacher of each school in Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust.

Where there are specific details or any discretions in the policy that apply to an individual school or Local Governing Committee this has been made clear within the wording of the policy.

This policy will be reviewed in line with the agreed timetable for policy review or sooner as events or legislation changes require.

Date Adopted: **February 2026**

Date for Review: **February 2027**

Contents

1 Aims	4
2 Use of remote learning	4
3 Roles and responsibilities	5
3.1 Teachers	5
3.2 Teaching Assistants	5
3.3 Headteacher and Senior Leaders	5
3.4 Designated Safeguarding Lead	6
3.5 Pupils and Parents/Carers	6
4 Data Protection	6
5 Safeguarding	7

2026-2027 changes to this policy:

- No changes.

1 Aims

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust is committed to providing the best possible education to all the students in its schools in the event that normal school attendance may not be possible.

This remote learning policy for staff aims to:

- Ensure consistency in the approach to remote learning for students who aren't in school
- Set out expectations for all members of the school community with regards to remote learning
- Provide appropriate guidelines for data protection

2 Use of remote learning

All students should attend school, in line with our attendance policy. Remote education is not viewed as an equal alternative to attendance in school.

Students receiving remote education will be marked absent in line with the Pupil Registration Regulations.

We will consider providing remote education to students in circumstances when in-person attendance is either not possible or contrary to government guidance.

This might include:

- Occasions when we decide that opening our school is either:
 - Not possible to do safely
 - Contradictory to guidance from local or central government
- Occasions when individual students, for a limited duration, are unable to physically attend school but are able to continue learning, for example because:
 - They have an infectious illness
 - They are preparing for or recovering from some types of operation
 - They are recovering from injury and attendance in school may inhibit such recovery
 - Their attendance has been affected by a special educational need or disability (SEND) or a mental health issue

Pathfinder schools will consider providing students with remote education on a case-by-case basis.

In the limited circumstances when remote learning is used, we will:

- Gain mutual agreement of remote education by the school, parents/carers, students, and if appropriate, a relevant medical consultant. If the student has an education, health and care (EHC) plan or social worker, the local authority (LA) will also be involved in the decision
- Put formal arrangements in place to regularly review and identify how to reintegrate the student back into school
- Identify what other support and flexibilities can be put in place to help reintegrate the student back into school at the earliest opportunity
- Set a time limit with an aim that the student returns to in-person education with appropriate support

Remote education will not be used as a justification for sending students home due to misbehaviour. This would count as a suspension, even if the student is asked to access online education while suspended.

3 Roles and responsibilities

3.1 Teachers

When providing remote learning, schools will provide a clear mechanism for teachers to monitor work and provide feedback.

If they're unable to work for any reason during this time, for example due to sickness or caring for a dependent, they should report this using the normal absence procedure.

When providing remote learning, teachers should:

- Provide students with access to remote education as soon as reasonably practicable, though in proportion to the length of absence and disruption to the learning of all learners
- Make reasonable adjustments for students with SEND to access remote education, where required, informed by relevant considerations including the support families will require and the types of services that students can access remotely

3.2 Teaching Assistants

When assisting with remote learning, teaching assistants must be available during their normal working hours.

If they're unable to work for any reason during this time, for example due to sickness or caring for a dependent, they should report this using the normal absence procedure.

3.3 Headteacher and Senior Leaders

The Headteacher has overarching responsibility for the quality and delivery of remote education.

Alongside any teaching responsibilities, senior leaders should continue to use the school's digital platforms for remote education provision and make sure staff continue to be trained and are confident in its use. For Pathfinder schools initial access to remote learning will be made available on the individual school's website or learning platforms.

They should continue to overcome barriers to digital access where possible for pupils by, for example:

- Distributing school-owned laptops or Chromebooks accompanied by a user agreement or contract (if possible)
- Securing appropriate internet connectivity solutions where possible
- Providing printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks, to structure learning, supplemented with other forms of communication to keep pupils on track or answer questions about work
- Having systems for checking, whether pupils learning remotely are engaging in its use, and work with families to rapidly identify effective solutions where engagement is a concern

- When remote learning is accessed by an individual or minority of pupils, clear communication is made with the parents regarding:
 - time frame
 - monitoring and feedback arrangements
 - content of remote learning
 - expectations
- Make provision for an up to date record of pupils accessing remote learning and the expected reintegration date in a format to meet the school's needs

3.4 Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for:

- Ensuring all safeguarding policies and procedures continue to be followed by all staff during any period of remote learning
- Communicating key safeguarding messages or updates with relevant members of the school community
- Supporting and advising staff with any concerns they may have
- Liaising with the Local Authority and their Virtual Head for Looked after Children / Safeguarding Advisor and Attendance Advisor
- Continue to engage with social workers and attend all multi-agency meetings which can be done remotely

3.5 Pupils and Parents/Carers

Staff can expect pupils learning remotely to:

- Be contactable during the school day – although consider they may not always be in front of a device the entire time
- Complete work to the deadline set by teachers
- Seek help if they need it, from teachers or teaching assistants
- Alert teachers if they're not able to complete work
- Act in accordance with the school's normal behaviour rules

Staff can expect parents/carers with children learning remotely to:

- Engage with the school and support their children's learning, and to establish a routine that reflects the normal school day as far as reasonably possible
- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise can't complete work
- Seek help from the school if they need it
- Be respectful when making any complaints or concerns known to staff

4 Data Protection

All staff should continue to follow the Trust's Data Protection policies and procedures during any period of remote learning.

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping their device password protected
- Making sure to lock the device when stepping away from it for a period of time
- Not sharing the device or its password among family or friends
- Installing antivirus and anti-spyware software
- Keeping operating systems and applications up to date

- Reporting any lost or stolen devices to the Trust's IT contractor

5 Safeguarding

Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All staff are expected to follow their school's safeguarding policies and procedures at all times. If there are any changes or updates to a school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, to reflect the circumstances of a particular period of remote learning, this will be clearly communicated with all staff and parents/carers.

During periods of remote learning, schools will continue to apply their policies and procedures in accordance with the following policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy