



St. Ignatius
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Primary School Web-based Learning Guide

March 2020

School Mission

St. Ignatius Catholic School nurtures the spiritual, academic, social and personal development of every student in a supportive Catholic atmosphere which welcomes and embraces all denominations.

CATHOLIC ETHOS/VALUES

St. Ignatius, in keeping with our mission and values of Catholic schooling, is committed to educating the whole child. During this period of learning, we ask you to support your child in accessing the range of activities which the school provides, to develop the whole person. We will be setting academic, sporting, language and musical activities which will aid learning and development. We also need to be mindful that the children's spiritual growth is developed and will be continuing to support the prayer life of the child as well as providing other Religious Education activities during this current liturgical season. We are also aware that the children may require support emotionally. During this time, we ask that you support one another, and your child. We aim to do our very best in supporting the parents, children and community during the challenging weeks ahead.

Learning from home – our pledge

Home learning during what is traditionally school time, is new to most of us during this time.

Please see below an outline of our provision so we can ensure that learning opportunities continue to be available for your child during this period of school closure.

Below you will also see some practical activities for you to support your child at home.

Structure

Routines and structure are important to all of us, especially children.

Routines may change as families adapt to this on-going situation however, it is worth considering the following:

- Maintain a morning routine; getting up at a set time, showering, breakfast. Breakfast might be a good opportunity for the family to sit around the table to talk about the day ahead.
- Develop a timetable or schedule of tasks/activities for your child and leave it in a prominent place in the house so they can see it. You may ask your child to tick off tasks as they complete them. Offer praise for when children complete tasks.
- Minimise distractions. Is there an area where your child can learn, play or sit? If there is a computer task, headphones might help. Older Primary children should sit on a chair when working, not on a sofa or bed.

Changes to routines

- Your child will be aware that the routines are different.
- It is **okay** to talk to your child about their thoughts and feelings, and to discuss aspects of Coronavirus with them in a measured and thoughtful way. Most children will become anxious

because of the behaviour of adults around them. If you remain calm in front of your child, then they are more likely to be calm themselves.

- Whilst it is important that we are open with the children, please be aware that some adult conversations have to take place, and that these should be away from the child.

What is an appropriate amount of learning?

Each child is an individual and at different stages of their learning – emotionally, physically, spiritually and academically. We want to ensure a balance so that your child is not overwhelmed with the amount of work, and that we are not placing too much pressure on you as parents - especially those who need to continue to work.

It is important that your child continues to learn during this period.

This is why work will be set at an age appropriate level, there will be different activities and expectations for children of different ages, according to developmental need. These expectations are clearly explained below and will be communicated throughout the days and weeks ahead.

EYFS

We **DO NOT** expect young children to sit in front of a computer for long periods to experience online learning.

We will use the Seesaw program to communicate with both you and your child at certain times each day.

There will be posts where teachers will send short videos to talk and explain activities/tasks to your child. We ask that you watch these videos and help your child with these activities, however, we also understand at times this may not always be possible due to parental work commitments.

There will be aspects of communication, language and literacy activities each day, as well as a Mathematical development activity. In addition, there will be provision for the other areas of learning such as creative, physical and emotional development and encouragement of such. Specialist lessons will also continue for Nursery and Reception.

There are student learning packs and suggestions for learning for your child whether in Nursery or Reception which you were able to collect from school today, if you were unable to collect your pack please pull up to the drop off lane at school tomorrow, Wednesday 18th of March, between 8am – 10:30am.

There will be video conferencing call opportunities on a one to one basis between each teacher and parent **which will be pre-arranged by the teacher**. We may also at times, ask your child to participate in a group call so that they are able to see their friends and peers.

Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2

If your child is in Years 1 to Year 6 there will be daily communication using Seesaw on the following:

- English learning activity,
- Mathematical learning activity,
- At least one other activity such as a live call or video from the teacher.
- Specialist lessons will also continue from Year 1 to Year 6.

In the event of slow or no Internet connection, children have access to their Student Learning Packs to continue with on-going learning tasks.

Physical Exercise & Breaks

The PE department will be making posts of lesson activities to encourage physical development.

Please do support your child with these.

Encourage your child to take a break when they need it – not just at scheduled times. A burst of physical exercise can help stimulate the brain. A few minutes of deep breathing can also help reduce stress and boost energy levels.

It might be a good idea for the whole family to take a break at lunchtime and sit down together at the table for something to eat. This can form a part of the daily routine.

Communication

This is key and a very important part of web-based learning.

Parents and staff are encouraged to communicate with each other, and we will endeavour to keep you informed of developments and answer your questions.

However, please note that the teachers, as is the case during a normal school day, will be monitoring the online learning of your child throughout the day as well as preparing lessons and resources for future lessons/activities alongside the many other daily duties of a class teacher.

Whilst our staff will try to help by responding to emails, please note that at this time, you might not get an immediate response.

Between the hours of 8am and 3.30pm, teachers will be working on preparing lessons and responding to children's learning needs.

Typically, our staff will aim to communicate with parents as quickly as possible during these exceptional circumstances. We ask for our parents' patience and understanding of this.

Behaviour

High expectations of behaviour will continue when web-based learning occurs. Please do support us and your child with this.

Sanctions will be imposed if your child does not behave appropriately online. We will continue to reward positive behaviours as we usually do.

If Primary children are responding via video or live broadcast, please ensure they are appropriately dressed. E.g. not in a swimsuit.

SeeSaw.me

Seesaw will be the main platform in St. Ignatius Primary for communication to you and your child regarding learning activities or tasks.

Please see the videos here about how to set up your child on Seesaw:

Desktop: <https://youtu.be/-KqVSmW-o5k>

iOS: <https://youtu.be/8cljDVwVfpo>

Android: <https://youtu.be/E-8jADnUApU>

YOU MUST sign up as a parent AFTER your child has logged in as themselves

PLEASE DO NOT SIGN UP AS THE PARENT UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE PARENTAL LINK VIA EMAIL. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT

You **can log in either using the QR Code or the 12-digit code included in your child's Student Learning Pack**. You will need to use this each time you log in, but you may be able to ask the computer to 'remember' you.

It is a good idea to take a photograph on your phone of the QR Code so that you have it ready. The QR code will work if you show the computer camera this image on your device, as well as the paper copy.

Instructions and lessons will be given through the following features of Seesaw:

- 1) The Journal
- 2) Activities
- 3) Skills
- 4) Inbox

As you familiarise yourself with the site, it will become quickly apparent how these elements work.

Teachers will provide instructions for each task assigned. There will be a combination of class assignments and assignments to individuals and groups of children within classes to allow for differentiation of learning.

You can also download an app for Seesaw to your mobile phone so that you as a parents are able to receive communications and updates on your mobile device to see what your child is working on.

CREATE A PARENT ACCOUNT

You sign up as a parent AFTER your child has logged in as themselves per the following instructions. PLEASE DO NOT SIGN UP UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE PARENTAL LINK VIA EMAIL. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT

To create a parent account so you can monitor your child's online learning; please follow the instructions below:

- 1) DO NOT DO ANYTHING UNTIL YOUR CHILD HAS SIGNED UP TO SEESAW. DO NOT SIGN YOUR CHILD UPTO SEESAW USING AN EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE USE EITHER THE QR CODE OR THE 12 DIGIT CODE SENT HOME IN THE CHILD'S LEARNING PACK.**
- 2) Once your child has signed up for SeeSaw, please sign yourself up as a parent following the instructions below:
- 3) Wait for the email to the parents giving a link. (NB - both parents can sign up using this link but give different sign up details.)
- 4) Click on the link to create your parent account. Fill out your first name, last name, email address and choose and confirm a password. Then you will be able to select your child from a list.
Please ensure that you click on the correct child.
- 5) You will receive an email stating you that you have signed up for Seesaw but are awaiting teacher approval. In the meantime, you can download the Seesaw Parent & Family App from the Google Play or Apple store.
- 6) Once the teacher has approved you to join your child's account, you will receive another email confirming this. You are now able to view what goes on in your child's account.
- 7) For other children in your household/family, you follow the above process by clicking on link from your other child's class teacher. You will be asked to log into your account as per the details you entered in Step 2 above. Once you have logged in, it will recognise that you have multiple children and the second child will appear in your account, once the teacher has approved it.

Zoom

- **Zoom will be our main means of live broadcasting.**
- **Please sign up to Zoom.us using the link: <https://zoom.us/>**
- **If a live broadcast occurs, your child will be invited to participate in the Zoom chat through the Seesaw account.**
- **Please note that the broadcasts will be recorded by the teacher. This is due to our on-going priority of ensuring good Safeguarding practices and to enable us to monitor online behaviours.**

Attendance

- We will continue to maintain records of children’s attendance each day as they participate in activities.
- Each child is expected to visit the attendance activity by 9am each day.
- This will involve a short response to a video message.
- We will also be monitoring completion of activities and activity on Seesaw. If your child is unwell, please inform the teacher in the usual manner. If we notice that you child is not engaging with us or staying in communication, you will receive an email. Unauthorised absences will be recorded in the usual manner.