



**ASHBOURNE  
EDUCATE TOGETHER  
NATIONAL SCHOOL**



## **Using Digital Platforms Seesaw and Google Classroom Guidelines for Parents and Guardians**

Over the past few months, Ashbourne ETNS has looked at more ways to support pupils learning through online devices. Since the reopening of our school in September 2020 we have been getting back to normal school life while also researching and introducing new ways and means of learning.

Since September 2020 the school has gradually introduced new online platforms ( Seesaw Infants- 2nd and Google Classroom 3rd- 6th) These online platforms have been introduced to pupils by teachers during the school day and now they form part of your child's school homework.

We introduced these platforms as part of homework so if ever there was a time where we had to rely more heavily on online learning, the children and parents would be more comfortable and confident using the platforms as they would have experience of using these already on a regular basis.

Online learning platforms have great benefits and there are also challenges. As issues arise , we as a school will do our best to address these.

### **Homework**

#### **Two-way feedback between home and school: (The student and the teacher)**

AETNS are providing a manageable and accessible opportunity for all pupils to regularly share samples of their work with the class teacher throughout each week by using the digital platforms Seesaw and Google Classroom.

Currently pupils are receiving some elements of homework each week on Seesaw or Google Classroom .

- Depending on the type of homework given on Seesaw and Google Classroom feedback may be given by the teacher on these platforms
- Seesaw and Google Classroom are not a means for parents and teachers to communicate. Parents who wish to make contact with the class teacher should do so

using the normal methods of email through the office. **Class teachers are not in a position to respond to parents through the online platforms**

- If a teacher needs to communicate with a parent they are to do so using the email system already in place in the school
- Any questions/queries/concerns about your child's homework can be addressed by the class teacher the next day in school between your child and their teacher
- Seesaw and Google Classroom should not be a means for students to communicate with teachers about events occurring during the school day
- We would ask that only work assigned by the teacher is uploaded onto the platform. We realise that children might like to do other work at home, and may wish to post lots of pictures etc on the platform , but it is for homework purposes only, and we don't want our class teachers inundated with posts which they are not in a position to respond to. If pupils wish, they can upload **1 other** piece of work such as a drawing, photo, video etc but the class teacher is not obliged to respond to this extra submitted piece of work.

### **School Closure**

In the event of a full school closure, where the school relies heavily on the online platforms the school would advise the following:

#### **Regular engagement with pupils:**

The teacher(s) assigned responsibility for supporting pupils learning remotely should engage with pupils on a daily basis, using the school's agreed communication method, while taking into account that some pupils may not be in a position to engage with remote teaching and learning each day.

- Education will be provided for the priority subjects outlined by the DES in this current climate, English, Gaeilge, Maths, SPHE and P.E. Teachers may include other subjects if they wish.
- Work will be uploaded on a daily basis by the teacher.
- All work submitted by the pupil in response to work set out by the teacher will be reviewed by the teacher, teachers will not respond to all pieces of work.
- Teachers are not expected to respond to other work submitted by the pupil that is not in relation to work set by the teacher.
- In the event of a full school closure it is impossible for teachers to respond and give feedback on all work set. Therefore in our school we have decided that teachers will respond with feedback to a **maximum of 3 pieces on any given week.**