St Michael’s PS, Dunnamanagh

3rd June 2020

**Lending IT Devices to Pupils during COVID 19**

The EA have established a process to enable schools to request a loan of IT devices to help with access to on-line learning at home. At this stage, EA are prioritising access for pupils who meet the following criteria:

1. The following criteria should be used for the lending of digital devices to pupils during the Covid-19 crisis. This will provide scope for wider distribution of devices if there is capacity to do so.

2. Priority will be given to children currently in year groups: 11, 13, 6 and 3; and

3. Categories: FSME, SEN 1-5, Newcomer target groups (this means Asylum Seeker, Refugee and Roma children), LAC and children who are considered vulnerable1.

4. Distribution of devices shall be given in the following priority order:

i. Current Year 11 pupils who are FSME and SEN or newcomer target groups or LAC or vulnerable;

ii. Current Year 13 pupils who are FSME and SEN or newcomer target groups or LAC or vulnerable;

**iii. Current Year 6 pupils who are FSME and SEN or newcomer target groups or LAC or vulnerable;**

**iv. Current Year 3 pupils who are FSME and SEN or newcomer target groups or LAC or vulnerable;**

5. Indicative figures suggest approximately 8,000 children could be eligible for a device using the above criteria in the first round. The more categories a pupil is eligible under, the higher the priority.

6. Those pupils who are FSME in the above year groups but not meeting the criteria of either SEN, newcomer target groups, LAC and/or vulnerable category will be considered next for distribution.

7. Subject to availability, pupils who are FSME in other year groups will be considered on a similar basis as the year groups named above.

I have highlighted the criteria which apply: 4(iii) and 4(iv).

If your child falls into one of these criteria and you would like the school to make an application for a loan of an IT device to assist with on-line learning please email the school info account: **info@smps.dunnamanagh.ni.sch.uk**

EA have stated that:

* The request must be made through the school.
* Requests can be made between 3rd June – 10th June.
* Home must have sufficient wifi arrangements to support the device.
* It is realistic at this point to say that there is no guarantee that your child will be provided with a device at this stage but that best endeavours are being undertaken.
* Parents must sign a copy of the Loan Agreement.
* School should provide copies of relevant school policies i.e. Acceptable Use Policy.

*J Carlin (Mrs)*

*Principal*