



Diocese of Manchester Teacher-Student Boundaries When Teaching Online

Online teaching is new to most of us. It's important to remember that even though you may be teaching from the comfort of your own home, it is still necessary to maintain professionalism and adhere to boundaries with students. **Remember:**

- ★ You are a role model for students!
- ★ Boundaries keep EVERYONE safe!
- ★ We cannot relax our safety standards!

Keep it Professional

- ❖ Be on time and prepared for classes
- ❖ Answer student questions promptly (typically, within 24 hours)
- ❖ When conducting or recording video based sessions:
 - Wear appropriate attire from head to toe
 - Teach from a home office or a space with a neutral background

Set Boundaries in Your Online Classroom

Set up “office hours” - Let students know when you are available for questions. Set limits on the times you are available, such as regular daytime hours.

Enforce appropriate language and dress (e.g., students cannot show up wearing PJs)

Do not tutor students 1:1 - If students need extra help, conduct group sessions or if you must assist a student individually, require the parent to be present.

Only use approved apps & platforms – Be sure to use official communications channels and do not go “offline” to chat with students. If you have questions, check with your principal.

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