Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's first day or two of being educated remotely might look different from our standard approach, while we take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

We aim to move to online provision as soon as we are able to, staffing levels permitting. In some instances, we may send home children with work packs if there is a foreseeable reason to do this.

Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in subjects where specialist equipment is needed (e.g. Physical Education, Art, Design and Technology etc) it may not be possible to set work that follows the exact same objectives that would have been covered in school.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly three hours each day on average in Year 2 and below and four hours per day in Years 3 to 6.

Accessing remote education

How will my child access any online remote education you are providing?

Across school, we use online platforms to deliver remote education.

In Foundation Stage, we use Tapestry.

In Years 1 to 6, we use Google Classroom.

We have sent all families log on information in a separate letter. Please contact the school office if you are unable to access these platforms.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

If you are unable to access our online platforms due to not having access to the correct technology, please contact us at school to see how we can help.

We can offer the following support:

- The Department of Education have provided us with thirteen laptops that we can offer on loan during bubble closures.
- Printed resource packs, which we will deliver to your home.

If you telephone the school office on (0114) 286 3167, we can discuss how best to support you and your child.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

Each day you can expect your child to be able to access content related to at least:

- English (including phonics content depending on the age of the child)
- Mathematics
- Another subject

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live contact with the class teacher to welcome children or offer support (delivered using Google Meet video conferencing)

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons to support English objectives, White Rose Maths to support Mathematics, Ruth Miskin to support phonics, video/audio recordings made by teachers)

- independent tasks for pupils to complete that are linked to learning objectives

- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)

- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home

Please refer to Tapestry/Google Classroom for details of each day's schedule and activities.

Engagement and feedback

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We expect all pupils to engage with remote education each day during term time unless they are unwell.

We ask all parents and carers to support this by setting routines to support your child's education, for example making sure children are ready to engage with Google Meets at the published times or by setting specific 'work periods' for their child to engage with school work.

If you experience any difficulties in managing remote education in your home, contact us at school to see what additional help we can offer.

How will you check whether my child is engaging with their work and how will I be informed if there are concerns?

Teachers will check submissions from all children each day. They may also leave feedback in response to submissions.

If we identify any issues that require any follow up, or if we see that a child is not engaging with remote education, we will make contact with parents and carers to discuss this further and offer support.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms are also valid and effective methods, amongst many others. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

Our aim is to maximise engagement through digital platforms and offer feedback electronically, for example using Google Classroom to offer comments on children's work. Online feedback may be to individuals or groups depending on the nature of the task.
In some cases, it may be that verbal feedback is needed which may be given over Google Meet or via telephone.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs

How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support from adults at home to access remote education?

We recognise that some pupils, for example some pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access remote education without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers to support those pupils in the following ways:

We will routinely make contact with families who have children with SEND or are considered vulnerable during any period of partial school closure, such as a bubble closure or a national lockdown. While we would at first look at how we can support you in helping your child to access the existing content, in some cases we have also:

- provided additional content tailored to individual need
- arranged one to one Google Meet sessions with a familiar member of staff
- arranged additional support and advice sessions for parents with staff

These responses are bespoke to each family. Please contact us at school if you would like to discuss additional outreach support for your child.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, how remote education is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

If the majority of a class is in school, this means our staff will also be in school. As a result, support for smaller numbers of children who are self-isolating could take a different form.

If we have the required staff capacity, we may still offer remote education online as described above.

It maybe that we offer printed work packs as an alternative.

We can discuss a suitable approach with you when you telephone us to inform us that your child is self-isolating.