

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 where national or 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?

The first few days will be lighter-touch tasks to give children (and parents) time to get to grips with the technology.

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?

Broadly, the same curriculum objectives will be covered during remote learning as in school. We have had to make adaptations in some areas, e.g. PE, art, design technology and music lessons have been simplified so that access to practical resources needed in these lessons is not an issue.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

The government expects that remote education will broadly take KS1 pupils at least 3 hours per day, and KS2 pupils 4 hours per day. EYFS pupils should access remote education for a length of time appropriate for the child's ability.

The times above include remote teaching and independent work, and time away from a computer (e.g. when taking part in PE activities).

Accessing remote education

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

All Key Stages will use Google Classroom to receive and submit work. EYFS parents can continue to submit work on Evidence Me. Teachers will mainly link to explanations on Oak Academy, White Rose Maths (the maths scheme we use in school), BBC Bitesize, and YouTube. Teachers will also sometimes produce their own recorded explanations which can be viewed as PowerPoint or video files. Please note that parents do not have to own PowerPoint to view these files – they can be opened directly in Google Classroom.

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:

- We have a limited number of laptops to lend out to families. Please contact the school office on 01773 742537 for more information.
- We are sourcing some 4G routers with data plans which families can use to access the online learning.
- Parents can use their mobile phones as 'portable hotspots' – although they should check their data plan before they do so. Parents can contact the school office on 01773 742537 for more information.
- As a last resort, school will print out and deliver paper copies of materials.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- A structured approach to teaching and learning, i.e. lessons are sequenced and build towards an endpoint.
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers).
- Materials which children fill in (e.g. worksheets) can be completed entirely in Google Classroom.
- Reading books can be picked up from school.
- As a last resort, textbooks and reading books pupils have at home.

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?

Following government guidance, school has a duty to provide remote education, and pupils are expected to engage with the tasks set by their teacher.

Teachers schedule tasks to be presented by Google Classroom throughout the day, to mimic the routine of a regular day in school. Parents and carers should set routines to help their children to engage, taking regular breaks between sessions.

Parents and carers should ensure that children have a calm, quiet space to work, and access to the appropriate technology. Mobile phones are not recommended, as the screens are too small. A laptop/netbook is ideal, and school can help with this (see above).

During their children's learning time, parents can support their children with the tasks, but should encourage their children to complete these as independently as possible.

We encourage pupils to submit their work at the end of the session (or as indicated by the teacher). This helps the teacher to adjust the following lesson if needed, and provide feedback. Please help your child to stick to the times, but do not be over concerned if the work comes in late.

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

Each week, teachers take a count-up of the tasks completed by their pupils who are learning remotely. They also consider the quality of pupils' work compared with how they typically perform in the classroom. If they are concerned, teachers will contact parents by phone to work out the reasons why and help to remove barriers.

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. Teachers feedback to pupils daily through Google Classroom. These will usually be typed comments, although teachers can record a message. The feedback is two-way, and the child can type a message back or to use the chat function to ask questions. In some cases, the teacher may contact the family by phone.

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 those 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 on an individual basis appropriate to the needs of the child. Essentially, this work will focus on how best to remove barriers and enable the child to access the learning as effectively as possible, and to replicate as close as possible their rate of learning during regular classroom teaching.

Younger pupils will be supported by tasks appropriate to their age and ability to access the technology. Parents have a direct email address to the class teacher to ask for help if they are struggling, and they can always contact the office on 01773 742537 for help with any general issues. Parents can also request a callback by the class teacher.

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

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, the remote education provided will differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school. To ensure a well-sequenced curriculum, where sequences of lessons build towards an endpoint, pupils learning remotely will follow the same lesson objectives as those in the classroom and use the same learning materials. Explanations on websites or by the teacher will be linked to as above, however the level of interaction with the teacher may not be as frequent or detailed. This will depend on the teacher's workload at the time.