West End Primary School

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?

Although we plan to provide online remote education within the first 24 hours of your child's absence this is not always possible, therefore;

Pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 may be provided with worksheets or workbooks to cover the first day or two of being sent home.

Pupils in EYFS will be provided with activities via Tapestry

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 practical subjects requiring access to resources which families may not have at home such as art, music or science, we will alter the curriculum to be able to provide learning which meets the subject objectives in a different way, e.g. through online games and activities.

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 the following number of hours each day:

The government requires that pupils in Key Stage One receive a minimum of 3 hours work per day and pupils in Key Stage Two, 4 hours work per day. There is no government recommendation for Early Years. Each child is different and some children may work more slowly than others. If your child is struggling to complete their remote learning in the expected time please contact us.

Your child does not need to complete their work in one session. It is important that they take breaks for exercise and relaxation.

Activities will be appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children and will take into account their various levels of concentration. The government acknowledges that younger children in Key Stage 1 may find this amount of work challenging and allow schools to set the amount of work they deem appropriate.

Accessing remote education

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

Pupils in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) will receive online remote education via Tapestry.

Pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 (Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) will receive remote online education via Class Dojo.

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:

There are a number of ways we can help those children who do not have sufficient access to digital or online devices.

Parents may request to loan a laptop for their child on a temporary basis. Parents will be required to sign a loan and suitable use agreement.

Parents may request support for temporary additional mobile data for devices their child will use for online learning. Parents will be required to provide the following information:

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- the name of the account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device

Parents may request that their child receives a work pack or work book

Pupils can submit paper-based work by:

- photographing it and emailing it to school or sharing it on Tapestry or Class Dojo
- dropping it off at school weekly (during periods of local and national lockdown)
- bringing it back to school at the end of an individual isolation period

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Approaches to teaching remotely include but are not exclusive to:

- recorded teaching of videos made by teachers
- learning activities, worksheets, texts etc uploaded to remote learning platforms (Class Dojo, Tapestry)
- activities and challenges which can be completed using resources readily available in the home
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences (e.g. BBC Bitesize, Youtube)

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?

- Pupils are expected to complete all of the tasks set by their teachers in each subject each day
- Parents are expected to support their child to access remote learning every day and ensure that tasks are completed
- Parents should set a workable routine for their child when they will be able to support them. This may not fall within the normal hours of the school day and should include breaks for exercise and relaxation.
- Older pupils can be expected to complete some tasks independently with minimal support from parents

- Parents should inform school immediately if their child is unwell and cannot complete remote learning tasks
- Parents should inform us as soon as possible if their child is having difficulty with remote learning or is refusing to engage
- Parents should inform us as soon as possible of any issues with accessing remote learning, e.g. internet issues, digital device issues

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

We understand that for some families it will be difficult to complete remote learning tasks every day, e.g. because of work commitments, difficulties accessing online resources, more than one child requiring support etc. We will do our best to support families who find supporting their child to engage in remote learning difficult. If you are having any problems with your child's remote learning please contact us as soon as possible so that we can help you to resolve any issues.

During national or local lockdown, closure of a class bubble or if a child is isolating when the rest of the children are in school:

- Teachers will check work submitted on Tapestry(Reception) or Class Dojo daily. If a child has not engaged in any work for 2 or 3 days a message will be sent asking parents if they require support with remote learning
- If there is no response to this message within 24 to 48 hours teachers will phone the parent to ask if they require support with remote learning
- If the parent cannot be reached by these methods the headteacher or a senior leader may try to make contact via phone or letter
- If there is still no response or if the parent has been reached but the child is still not engaging, support may be offered by the school's Inclusion Mentor or Parent Support Partner or sought via the Education Welfare Service

As the school nursery is fully open, work submitted by parents who choose not to send their child to nursery at this time will be checked at least weekly and messages regarding engagement will be sent weekly. As nursery is not statutory parents can choose not to do the remote learning if they prefer.

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:

During national or local lockdown or the closure of a class bubble:

Key Stages 1 and 2

- Pupils will receive feedback daily
- Feedback may be in the form of comments on the work completed or may be a short statement on the quality of the work, e.g. well done, good work
- Pupils may be given directions on how to improve or correct their work
- Pupils may receive reward stickers for good work, effort or commitment
- Pupils and parents will receive answers to their questions or comments, although these may be brief to ensure staff can complete all of the feedback required
- Whole class feedback may be given for some tasks

Reception

- Pupils will receive feedback daily
- Feedback may be in the form of comments on the work completed or may be a short statement on the quality of the work, e.g. well done, good work
- Pupils may be given directions on how to improve or correct their work
- Pupils and parents will receive answers to their questions or comments, although these may be brief to ensure staff can complete all of the feedback required

Nursery

As the school nursery is fully open, work submitted by parents who choose not to send their child to nursery at this time will be checked at least weekly and feedback will be sent weekly. As nursery is not statutory parents can choose not to do the remote learning if they prefer.

Individual isolation

In the case of a child isolating when the rest of the class is in school feedback may only occur every two or three days as the class teacher will be busy teaching the children who are in school.

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:

Pupils with SEND:

- Teachers will set work which is differentiated to meet the child's needs
- Advice and support will be given to parents, if required, on how to support their child with their learning (this is the case with all remote learning)
- Teachers will monitor all submitted work closely and offer support and guidance where they see a need

Younger children (Year 1 and EYFS)

- Tasks will be sent which are appropriate to the age and stage of the child's development
- Tasks will be appropriate in length to the children's levels of concentration
- Pupils in EYFS will be given tasks which support the 17 areas of learning and focus on developing their basic skills
- Where possible tasks will be practical and use resources families should have in the house
- Advice and support will be given to parents, if required, on how to support their child with their learning (this is the case with all remote learning)
- Teachers will monitor all submitted work closely and offer support and guidance where they see a need

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?

- Where possible work sheets and work books will be provided for the first 1 or 2 days of a child's isolation period
- Remote learning tasks will be set on Tapestry or Class dojo as soon as possible
- Teachers will mark, assess and give feedback on tasks at least weekly during your child's isolation and preferably twice or three times a week, depending on their workload teaching the other children
- If your child is unwell, he/she will not be expected to complete remote learning and parents should inform us if this is the case

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