



Remote Learning Guidance



Whitehouse Primary School,
Vaynol Way, Whitehouse, Milton Keynes MK8 1AG

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 document.

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?

Within the first day or two of children being sent home, they will be able to access learning through home learning activities and resources posted on the school website. We will provide printed copies of the learning packs to those families that have difficulty in accessing the website or printing materials at home.

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?

Wherever possible, we will remotely teach the same broad and balanced curriculum as we do in school. However, we may need to make adaptations in some subjects such as PE, art and music to reflect the resources available within the home.

Live lessons for maths, reading, writing and phonics will follow a similar format as they would if the children were in school, i.e. a writing session format consists of two or three sections where the children are able to share ideas and vocabulary before using a model to write their own sentences. There will be opportunities for your child to work independently away from the screen or remain online with the teacher to receive additional support should they require it.

Some learning activities linked to the wider, foundation curriculum will be in the form of research or a project and this will be discussed with the children and shared on our online learning platform.

Remote teaching and learning 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:

Nursery	We encourage children to join in with live sing-along sessions, watch story – time videos and enjoy some of the recorded art and craft activities.
Foundation	Up to 3 hours of remote learning will be provided with an expectation that the live registration, phonics and maths sessions are attended daily.
Key Stage 1: Years 1 & 2	At least 3 hours of remote learning will be taught or uploaded each day.
Key Stage 2: Years 3 - 6	At least 4 hours of remote learning will be taught or uploaded each day.

Accessing remote education

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

The school uses Zoom to deliver live sessions and these can all be easily accessed via our online learning platform through Sway. The link to each year group's Sway are sent to every parent. Additional resources such as TT Rockstars, Numbots, Spelling Shed, wellbeing and mindfulness activities etc, can all be found on the year group Sway.

Completed work can be uploaded to a padlet by the children or emailed to their teacher if necessary. Feedback will be provided in a number of ways either written or verbal so children can make improvements.

Parents of children in Early Years can continue to use EExAT to communicate with class teachers and share their child's work.

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 will endeavour to support each family and have been allocated a small number of laptops by the DfE that we can lend out to disadvantaged pupils who need a device to access remote education. We will personally contact all our families who may be eligible.

If you require a router to access the internet and as a result, remote education, or a SIM card with a free data allowance, please contact the school office for further information.

Paper packs and resources can be requested and collected from the school office if children do not have online access. If you are shielding or isolating and unable to collect the resources, we will deliver them to your home. Likewise, completed work can be dropped off at reception or collected from your home. Please contact your child's teacher via email for help and advice.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Daily live lessons online: these will be maths, reading, writing and/or phonics depending on the key stage and needs of the children.

Pre-recorded sessions with the flexibility to be accessed or re-visited at any point: On occasions, there will be lessons with voice-over explanations by our teachers and links to additional resources and activities that support the live lessons as well as further activities to support the wider curriculum.

Links to other websites ie. Oak Academy, BBC Bitesize, TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed, Epic and Letterjoin can be found on the year group Sways.

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 children to attend the daily morning online registration and all the live lessons. In addition to this, we expect all children to complete every activity set both within the live lessons and those which address the wider curriculum. The afternoon registration is optional.

We recommend that parents set out a daily timetable for their child(ren) based around the live lessons and plan in breaks and outdoor time for exercise and time away from the screen.

We understand that due to work commitments or other children, parents may not always be available to support their child(ren). As long as the children are shown how to use the functions to mute and unmute themselves, they should be able to follow the lesson without adult support as they would do at school.

We ask that parents continue to find time to read regularly with their children at home. Please ask your child's teacher if you wish to borrow reading books from school.

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

Your child will be able to upload their finished work to the Padlet or email directly to the class teacher. The teacher will assess and mark the work in a similar way to how they would at school. The feedback may be verbal or written and the teacher will decide on the most effective way in order to support your child's progress. Please note that feedback will be most effective if work is completed and submitted as soon as possible, preferably on the day set.

If your child is not engaging in the live lessons or the activities set, the class teacher will inform you straight away via a phone call home or an email. We would then expect you to support your child and ensure they attend all daily lessons and complete and submit all expected pieces of work.

Class teachers will make fortnightly phone calls to check in on children's wellbeing and it is expected they will speak to the children and address the lack of engagement with them.

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:

Not all pieces of work require 'in depth' marking e.g. Maths. Sometimes Class Teachers will supply the answers to straight-forward questions such as those in Maths or Reading Comprehensions so your child can self-mark. Class Teachers will mark writing in more depth, as they would do at school.

Marking will be in line with the school marking policy (see website for Marking Policy)

If necessary, teachers will contact parents and children to offer additional advice, support and feedback and from time to time may even set up an additional remote session for an individual or small group of children if they require extra help with particular aspects of their work.

In most live lessons there is an option, if required or prompted by the teacher, for the child to remain on the live session so they can have additional support in completing the independent task.

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:

- All children have access to remote learning as detailed above. In addition to this, teachers may set specific work linked to a child's individual learning needs and targets.
- Where children are not able to access the remote learning, the family will receive regular phone calls to check on their well-being and offer suggestions and support with home learning resources and guidance.
- Whenever possible, SEND children will be educated on site, however if this is not an option, the Inclusion Manager will liaise directly with parents to create a bespoke home learning plan. If a child usually has 1:1 support, the adult who supports will arrange 1:1 remote sessions with a focus on the targets set out in the child's EHCP. Home learning activity packs will also be provided as required to support the child and parent in addressing the targets.
- Children in younger year groups (Early Years and KS1) may need greater adult support when accessing live lessons. We have designed our online platform to be as easy to access as possible and most children will be able to access the learning independently once they are familiar with the online controls and the routine of the home learning day.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual children 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 your child has to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, their teacher will share the lesson information and (if appropriate) the lesson PowerPoint so your child can follow the content of the lesson at home. They will also receive a home learning pack which will contain all the necessary work/prompt sheets that accompany each lesson. Your child will be expected to complete the activities and return them to their teacher, for marking and feedback. We recommend that parents set out a daily timetable for their child(ren) and this can be compiled in conjunction with the teacher who will support parents in setting out recommend time slots for each subject and plan in breaks and outdoor time for exercise.

Please also refer to our Remote Learning Plan for further details.