



St Mary's Catholic Primary Blackbrook

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?

- **Day one** - work for day one is not online but paper based. You will find everything that you need in the pack that has been sent home. Complete the work in the exercise book provided.
- **Day two** - learning will be directed through Microsoft TEAMS. Use your child's login to access TEAMS, you will then be able to access the learning on a daily basis (usernames and passwords were sent home with your child in October)

Note: Please telephone or email school if you do not know your child's username and password.

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, P.E. Art and Design Technology and music these would normally include significant elements of practical work in the live classroom. In these and other cases we will provide; direct lesson links and video demonstrations available on platforms such as YouTube, Oak National and BBC Bitesize.
- We aim to do our best to support and accommodate parent's workload and technology restraints at home.
- Children will be asked to complete as much of the daily timetable as possible and will be encouraged to do so. However, pressure, will not be put upon parents to complete all the home learning if time does not allow.

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:

<i>Remote Learning consists of a combination of;</i>		
<i>Live sessions with the class teacher</i>		
<i>Links to recorded sessions (eg Oak National, teacher recorded sessions, BBC Bitesize)</i>		
<i>Independent work - not online (eg follow work from live sessions, investigation etc..)</i>		
	Daily Minimum Expectation	Daily Average
Foundation Stage	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
KS1		
Y1	3 hours	average 3 hours
Y2	3 hours	average 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours
LKS2		
Y3	4 hours	average 5 hours
Y4	4 hours	average 5 hours
UKS2		
Y5	4 hours	average 5 hours
Y6	4 hours	average 5 hours

Accessing remote education

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

St Mary's Blackbrook will be using an online forum developed by Microsoft and GDPR compliant called [Microsoft Teams](#) to upload resources, presentations and work.

This is free resource, which will ensure that your child has direct contact to their class teacher and is able to access learning resources on a daily basis during their remote learning period. Teachers and class members will also be able to engage in a fully visible conversation if needed.

All children have been provided with an Office 365 account which enables them to access Microsoft Teams. Each child has been placed within a 'Class Team' led by their class teacher and any other staff within the year group. This will be where announcements will be made by the class teacher (and other staff) about whole class remote learning such as assignments set, timetables, requirements for the day, links to sites etc.

Children can upload home learning, photographs and ask questions. It is also a place where teachers can deliver specific home learning to differentiate activities for individuals and have conversations with parents about specific matters relating to their child.

Weekly posts on individual class pages, will also provide a link the main timetable for the week.

Laptops and Tablets

Surveys and Forms have been completed prior to lockdown to ensure that all children have access to technology needed.

Laptops, and tablets have been offered to those children who are unavailable to access technology.

We have ensured that Microsoft Teams is available on all devices including Macs, Smart Phones, Tablets, iPads, Laptops and Desktop PCs.

We have posted on our school website, sent out via the parent app, guides and links for how to use effectively and access on each.

Access to the internet - additional mobile data

- a form via the Parent App has been sent where you can check if you are eligible for additional mobile data
- If you are eligible the network operator will use information that you have submitted to increase the data available for the account holder's mobile device

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:

As outlined previously, St Mary's have been in regular contact with parents prior to any lockdown to research who is in need of specific technology and conversations have been had to find out who could make alternative arrangements.

The laptop scheme provided by the government has been accessed and laptops are available for loan.

- St Mary's have also purchased additional technology in the form of Samsung tablets to distribute to families who are struggling to access technology or have large families who need more than one piece of technology to achieve their home learning.
- As outlined previously you may be eligible to access additional mobile data, please contact school if you wish this information resending
- If parents have recently changed circumstances we have asked them to email or phone the school office to see if there is any extra availability to loan equipment in the form of a device, alongside those who have already indicated their wish to loan.

Children who do not have online access

- We have made booklets and printed off weekly packs as an option to those families. We expect these to be returned weekly for monitoring and marking by the class teacher.
- We have given CGP workbooks to all families to take home prior to any lockdown and have provided blank workbooks for children to use if needed.
- Regular phone contact with 'vulnerable' children ensures that we are always fully aware if circumstances change or additional packs are needed.
- We also try to have phone contact and/or TEAMS contact with all isolating families at least once a week. •
- We encouraged work to be uploaded back to Teams via assignments and channels in the form of documents and photographs to avoid printing.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching used by St Mary's

- Live teaching through Microsoft Teams via Stream. Permissions are allocated to specific classes. All recorded for safeguarding purposes as outlined in the schools Remote Learning Policy.
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers, Bitesize, and other online providers)
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. CGP question books, workbooks, worksheets)
- Reading books pupils have at home accompanied by specific books allocated through Oxford Owl
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.
- Online applications subscribed to by St Mary's, TT Rock Stars, Go Read, Oxford Owl, RM Maths and Purple Mash
- Assignments, lessons and feedback are provided through the applications as incentive and rewards announced via weekly class assemblies via TEAMS and on Teams

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?

At St Mary's we expect all children to engage in some way with remote learning.

- A minimum of communication via Teams, assignments once a day.
- A register will be kept keeping track of engagement with live lessons, uploaded work and communication on each day of remote learning.
- We expect children to complete the online learning set for them by the class teacher daily and evidenced via Teams, however, we acknowledge that:
 - Parents own workload might prevent full completion
 - Technology drawbacks and unexpected issues with broadband/technology may delay work.
 - Child cooperation may be affected by stress, health, illness and wellbeing.

We would prefer children to be happy with learning than unnecessarily forced to complete work at the detriment to their own health. However, we also recognise that educational attainment is enabling. Children accessing learning at home will be best for them in order to keep up with their education.

- We would expect parents to ensure....
 - Children attend live lessons wherever possible at the times stated.
 - Upload work for children (especially in the Foundation Stage and KS1) who are unsure of technology.
 - Children are encouraged to engage with work, even if they are reluctant, to provide positive reassurance and motivation to complete work to the best of their ability.
 - Children are encouraged to give their best with regards to presentation and spelling when completing work.
 - Children are read with at least three times a week at a minimum, either using books from home or online books via Oxford Owl at their specific book banded grade. Read Write Inc Core story books will also be made available online.
 - Assist with aspects of the remote learning curriculum their children need support with.
 - Ensure children use the allocated timetable as much as possible and keep suitable morning & bedtimes hours for their age group.
 - Awareness that children work best through positivity and to provide children with praise to encourage work and motivate.

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

At St Mary's we will be available on TEAMS for parents and children to ask questions or voice concerns. This can be done via your child's TEAMS post or through the school email. During school hours, teachers and support staff will be available to answer any queries. The school telephone number and email address is also available during this time.

- Remote engagement will be checked daily via a register. A class list will be taken to record who has engaged with lessons, communicated on
- Teams and uploaded completed work each day.
- We will also stay in regular contact with parents and children via Teams, parent app, email, and phone call.

If we find a child has not engaged with remote learning we will try the following methods to offer support:

- a message will be placed via Teams
- a text via the parent app will be sent to their parents teachers to parents.
- a phone call contact home to chat and discuss challenges
- If after a full week there is no engagement or contact then a member of staff who is not self-isolating will be asked to attend the house of the child to deliver paper based tasks. Support will be offered to engage in future opportunities.

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:

At St Mary's, the methods we will use to assess and feedback on pupils' work will be based on communication with the child and parents primarily.

We feel that feedback can be given via the child's assignments on TEAMS and ways to improve on certain aspects of their work. Many aspects of remote learning will be created in the form of a Teams 'assignment' in which a task is set, children 'hand in' completed work and teachers type up feedback before handing it back to the child.

Children are familiar with how to use assignments. Pupils should receive some feedback to a varying degree on each assignment generated.

Teachers will also keep separate records of each child's uptake of home learning as outlined above. Children's progress is also monitored through the online application 'Optimum O Track Data', whether children are achieving... at, below or beyond expected standard for their year group. This will continue to be updated during remote learning.

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:

At St Mary's, regular communication is crucial with those children who have individual needs to ensure they have all the resources they need and support we can give.

- We work regularly with families to deliver remote education for pupils with SEND through specific assignments for individual children and their individual needs are monitored regularly.
- We use children's Teams private channels to upload specific work for children who are not undertaking the same work as the rest of their peers. This work is discretely uploaded so that the other children in the class are unaware separate work has been given different to their own.

Regular meetings are held with specific children and their parents remotely to ensure targets and routines are outlined and offer the best support we can in each individual case.

For children in the KS1 are who unable to access a lot of the remote work independently, we offer a live morning session with the class teacher who describes an outlined plan of the day. We ask parents to accommodate this meeting to ensure children are as independent as possible with their daily tasks.

Lessons, especially in KS1 are planned so children can maintain a practical approach to learning as well as computer based so children's learning is not always reliant on their computing ability.

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?

Weekly, on the relevant class page on the school website, a plan is uploaded for 'children who are self-isolating'. As near as possible, it follows the same activities that are being used by the children in school for that week. Any teaching aids such as web links, video clips and PowerPoints etc are also made available remotely so children can get the same learning input. Work can be uploaded onto TEAMS and marked by the class teacher. Alternatively, completed in the work book that was sent home in October which can then be brought back into school at the end of the self-isolation period.

In special circumstances, paper work will be provided and issued weekly.