



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? 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?

- All children have been provided with a remote learning exercise book and equipment such as pens pencils rulers etc. to keep at home for use during remote learning. Replacements of all equipment are available to collect from school or if isolating please contact the school and we will deliver the required resources.
- Work will be made available for all children through Seesaw.
- All work should be completed in the exercise book and using school equipment.
- We will also issue a device to any children that don't already have access to one at home, this will include a charger for the device and internet if required. A database has been collated of children's requirements for internet and a device and as soon as possible and when all devices are given out live lessons will begin.
- All children have been trained in using the devices and in both the use of Seesaw and Microsoft Teams. Technical support is always available by contacting the school.
- At the end of remote learning all books, devices and equipment must be returned to school. We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school, however we may change the order of teaching particular content within our long-term plan.

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 follow exactly the same format as a current school day. Primary school-aged pupils 9am – 3.15pm with 1hr for lunch and approximately 15-minutes for toilet breaks.

Accessing remote education: How will my child access any online remote education you are providing? 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: Children access all live lessons through Microsoft Teams and put all their work in the remote learning book.
- All activities are available through Seesaw and will be discussed during the live lessons. Once completed, work in the children's books is uploaded into Seesaw for feedback. We recommend the use of headphones when accessing live lessons.
- We have identified the children who do not have access to a device at home and will supply one to them along with a charger.
- We have identified any children who do not have access to the internet at home and will supply a temporary access point.
- Exercise books have been issued to all children along with essential resources such as a pen, pencil and ruler
- A limited number of headphones are available to borrow.

How will my child be taught remotely?

- We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:
- live teaching (online lessons)
- Seesaw app (all activities available on here and completed tasks uploaded on here)
- Digital learning that children usually access in school eg Oxford Reading Buddy, Bedrock, Times Tables Rock Stars Spelling frame, Maths Frame, Code for Life etc.
- Pupils should be engaged in exactly the same way as during a school day
- Teachers will work with the children and are available to provide all necessary support for the children's learning.
- We have timetabled PE and Music lessons to enable all children from one household to do these together at the same time.
- Parents please help your child by setting the expectation of the day's routine and encourage your child to engage fully in all aspects of learning.
- We encourage children to wear their school uniform and understand that they are engaging with school in a slightly different way.
- Please get in touch by email with the class teacher and the school office by phone if for any reason your child is unable to access learning.

How will you check whether my child is engaging with their work and how will I be informed if there are concerns? 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.
- A register will be taken at the beginning of live lessons to record which children are present, if a child is not present, we will chase this up with parents/carers.

- Work completed is submitted via the Seesaw app where teachers can monitor mark and assess work. A learning journal is created on Seesaw for every child.
- Remote learning books must be handed in at the end of the period of remote learning for further evaluation of children's progress.
- The usual forms of communication will be maintained with parents such as telephone calls, emails and termly parent meetings. Parents are also able to see their child's work through the Parents Seesaw App.
- Tracking of children's engagement is through an excel spreadsheet to track daily task completion. Seesaw also creates a backlog of tasks still to complete.
- If a child registers and then disappears. Teachers send an email to a member of staff who then makes contact to ensure maximum engagement and any technical issues can be addressed. Some families may receive a home visit.
- Children are able to ask questions and receive help and support during the live lessons. These lessons will be an important part of children receiving necessary feed-back.
- All work completed and uploaded on Seesaw will be marked and individual feedback provided. • Staff may speak to children individually on teams or by telephone.

Additional support for pupils with particular need: 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.
- Parents are able to discuss individual children's needs with their class teacher to access support.
- Support staff who work with children are able to offer help and support on a more individual basis as required.
- Adaptations to the remote curriculum for younger children in Nursery Reception and Y1 are in place eg shorter more frequent sessions, smaller group sizes in live lessons
Children with an EHCP are able to attend school during a lockdown

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, we will continue to provide remote learning.

On the first day of isolation, the school office will ensure your child has the necessary equipment. Your child's class teacher will then be in touch to organise remote learning to start on day 2 of isolation. We do not expect your child to access remote learning if they are unwell, but it is important, we stay in touch throughout the isolation period.

For further information please see our Remote Learning page -

<https://www.thornhill.durham.sch.uk/curriculum-overview/remote-learning/>

