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PROVIDING  
REMOTE - EDUCATION  
INFORMATION TO PARENTS

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St Mary's Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy

JANUARY 2021

## **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. This will allow staff across the academy to plan, prepare and provide guidance and resources for you and your child to access.

### **What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?**

In the first day or two, children will be provided with daily work on the Google Classroom. Key Stage One children, will be provided with approximately 3 hours learning a day and Key Stage Two children, will be provided with approximately 4 hours of learning a day.

### **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 core 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 order to keep the daily expectations around work completion realistic, we will not teach all non-core subjects as often as we would during full school opening. This enables staff to focus on Maths, English, RE and Reading, whilst making sure that other (topic) subjects are still taught with some regularity.

### **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:

Key Stage 1	Your child will be provided with approximately 3 hours of remote learning each day. This will include one Maths lesson, one English/ Reading lesson and one topic lesson.
Key Stage 2	Your child will be provided with approximately 4 hours of learning each day. This will include at least one Maths lesson, at least one English/ Reading lesson and at least one Topic lesson daily.

## Accessing remote education

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

In Reception, the children use some different online / remote learning resources. This allows Reception staff and children to continue to follow the EYFS framework, whether they are at home or in school. The programmes used by Reception are the Interactive Learning Diary (ILD) and the Ping. Staff will also use the Parent Cloud system to deliver 1 to 1 sessions with children at home.

In Year 1 to 6, children will access their remote learning provision through the Google Classroom.

Please note that paper workpacks are available for all children. These can be ordered through your child's class teacher or via the school office and will be available for collection by 8:30am on the Monday of that week.

### 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:

- If a family is identified as having no devices at home to access remote learning, then the school liaise with them and look to loan them a device for the sole use of remote learning.
- If parents are unable to access the internet at home, then the school will look to offer support by the way of data sim cards or will seek support from the DFE in providing a wireless router/ dongle.
- All families can request paper packs for the following week as detailed above.
- Families have been sent information on how to share their work via the Google classroom or by using the class email accounts. If a family is unable to share their work, then they are advised to discuss this with their child's class teacher, so an alternative can be sought.

## **How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

- live sessions (online) will be used by Year 1 to 6 teachers. The expectations of these are as follows;
  - Reception – 1 to 1 sessions with children weekly, who are not in school. This will be done using the Parent Cloud system.
  - Year 1 and 2 children, will have between 1 and 2 live sessions a week.
  - Year 3 and 4 children, will have between 1 and 2 live sessions a week.
  - Year 5 and 6 children, will have up to 4 live sessions each week.
  - The times of these sessions will be shared with parents and each class's live session will take place at a designated time.
- Staff will use a variety of video teaching resources, these will include their own recordings and other resources including those from youtube, Oak Academy and many others.
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home.
- Rock Star Timestables, MyMaths and Spelling Shed online subscriptions, allowing children to access independent resources and materials to supplement their learning.
- Weekly check-ins are carried out to each child who is not in school. During this check-in staff will do welfare and safeguarding checks as well as feeding back on the remote learning the child has completed.

## **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 understand that parents will have to deliver home learning in addition to many other home and work commitments. We therefore are trying to ensure that there is some flexibility in the support you need to offer your child/ children and that parents understand that the school is understanding of the difficulty sometimes to complete all work set. We hope that children will be able to access the vast majority of the work and have the opportunity to complete as much as possible. We do recommend that children focus on the core subjects (Maths, English & RE) if they are unable to complete all the work set that day.

We are asking parents to support their child/ children to be able to access the provision from home. We know this will involve more support for the younger members of our school community and therefore the number of live sessions and flexibility in their timings are greater for these families. Children will need a designated place (preferably quiet and free of major distractions) to work. Devices can be used for some elements of home learning and if you have no access to these, we would urge you to contact your child's class teacher. However, children can still access remote provision without devices and paper work packs are available.

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

Reception staff will monitor your child's engagement through the ILD and the work uploaded. They will also monitor this through the weekly 1:1 sessions and through the School Cloud system. Staff will look to adapt resources to help support families who require it.

In Years 1 to 6, staff will monitor the attendance of children in the live lessons, as well as checking the work children submit via the Google Classroom or class email. Staff will also check engagement through their weekly phone calls home.

Staff from school will contact parents if they are concerned about their engagement in remote learning. They will firstly seek to find if there are any obstacles, which are preventing your child engaging and they will look to support you in finding solutions to these. This may involve them seeking support from members of the SLT.

If a child is able to access provision and is not engaging, then staff will work with families to try and encourage engagement and see if modifications and support may be required.

## **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:

- Reception staff will feedback to children using the ILD and this may take the form of written comments or voice notes.
- As a minimum teachers of Year 1 to 6 children will feedback to children on one Mathematics and one English piece of work each week.
- In addition to this staff will set work with marksheets or using online platforms which automatically marks and assesses your child's work, allowing staff to see which elements of the curriculum your child might need support on.

## **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:

In this section, please set out briefly:

- If your child has SEND and is unable to access the provision on the Google Classroom, then the class teacher will provide resources and materials which are pitched at your child's level and stage of understanding.
- If your child has 1 to 1 support in school (EHCP), then your child will be offered regular/ daily support from their 1 to 1 Teaching Assistant.
- Staff of Key Stage 1 classes will endeavor to make resources easy to follow and accessible for their class. If activities require parental support, then staff will clearly outline how this can be given.

## **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?**

If your child is self-isolating and unable to be in school, then they will be provided daily activities on the Google Classroom. These may be links to the Oak Academy (or similar portals) which offers ready-made lessons.

Paper work packs can be provided for the allotted time off school and we would ask that you notify the school as soon as possible if you require one. In some instances, these packs may take 24 hours to prepare.