LOTHERSDALE Primary School

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REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS



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. In the event of sudden closure of a bubble or class, we will provide remote/home learning for children within 48 hours.

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

If children are sent home from school, we will provide them with home-learning workbooks for maths and writing to complete school tasks in. If bubbles are closed when children are not at school, e.g. at weekends, we will arrange to have workbooks delivered to homes or collected from school. Within the first 48 hours, staff will be able to direct children and parents towards meaningful and age-appropriate online content using platforms which we subscribe to (Reading Plus, TT Rock Stars, Purple Mash etc.) and also to websites where video lessons are available in the key subject areas (White Rose Maths or Oak Academy).

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?

Following the initial 48-hour period, once procedures have been put in place we aim to teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects to take into account the age of the pupils and the level of parental involvement that may be required. In addition, we are not assuming that all children have access to digital devices, so we will provide a broad range of learning resources for both online and paper-based learning.

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	In Year 1 - at least 2 to 3 hours per day In Year 2 - at least 3 hours per day
Key Stage 2	At least 4 hours per day

^{*} In addition to the work packs sent home and the curriculum resources provided by teachers, we will signpost parents and children to additional online resources which can be used to enhance, stretch or provide extra support to children. In this way, parents who wish for their children to do more work during the day can be sure that the resources they are using are of sufficient quality and have been verified by, and are trusted by, the school.

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Accessing remote education

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

We will provide as a minimum one online lesson per day, per year group e.g. the class 2 teacher will provide two live lessons – one for Year 1 and one for Year 2. Attendance at these lessons is strongly encouraged; parents who are struggling to facilitate this for their children should speak to the school, and we will endeavour to help where possible.

The live lessons will be provided using Zoom – an Acceptable Use Agreement has been circulated to the school community and parents must complete the agreement before their children join the lessons. Children can access the lessons using almost any technology with a browser, including (but not limited to) iPad, tablets, smart phones, laptops, Chromebooks, PlayStations etc.

In addition to the live lesson, the children will be encouraged to access other online resources to support their learning, dependent upon their age.

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 will take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- We will provide printed resources for parents and establish ways for them to collect and submit work to teachers for feedback.
- For families in receipt of free school meals or the Pupil Premium grant (or others who we understand to be economically disadvantaged) we will wherever possible provide a place for their children in school. If an entire bubble has closed and these children cannot attend, we will arrange to loan school equipment for use at home.
- We have arranged for data-only SIM cards to be made available to families who may have limited access to online content because of limited data on mobile contracts.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online lessons using Zoom)
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by White Rose teachers)
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Textbooks and reading books provided by school to be taken home
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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?

Whilst we recognise that any period of school closure can cause significant difficulties for parents, we do ask for a commitment from parents towards their child's continuing education when at home.

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We will provide work which will meet government stipulated guidelines for the amount of time that children should be working at home. We would expect that parents would monitor this work, and they would ensure that the minimum amount of time is completed.

When possible, we will invite children in to school if they fall into the 'vulnerable' category, which can include children who are not able to complete the amount of work set at home for a range of factors. Parents should speak to the headteacher if they are in any doubt as to whether their child would qualify for this additional support.

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

Class teachers will report attendance at Zoom daily lessons to the headteacher, and they will keep a list of children whose engagement in learning is a cause of concern.

The class teacher or headteacher will always call parents to discuss if children are not engaging with learning so that conversations can be had about the best way to engage the child to ensure valuable learning continues.

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:

In KS2 teachers will use the website Learning by Questions. This site provides the children with immediate feedback when children complete tasks or quizzes, and it also provides teachers with valuable data about children's understanding and learning. Teachers will follow up with children and/or parents following online quizzes where additional support is required.

KS2 children will also be encouraged to submit written work electronically using Purple Mash; this provides teachers with good opportunity to assess and feedback to children.

All children who are able to submit work to the teacher, either through emailed attachments from parents/carers or through physical work delivered to school, will receive feedback from teaching staff.

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:

- We will establish a dialogue with parents so that children's specific requirements can be discussed and a way forward agreed.
- We will always work with families towards establishing a routine that is both manageable for families and beneficial for the child's education.



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 It is understood that for some families, managing the daily workload of supporting the youngest children (those in Reception class) can be extremely difficult. We would encourage parents to talk to the class teacher so that an accommodation can be made for specific circumstances.

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.

Individuals will be provided with a paper pack of work based on the curriculum being taught in school. We will also provide links to online teacher-led videos which are relevant to the week's learning.

Due to staffing implications and technology restrictions in school, it will not be possible to stream the live lessons to children self-isolating at home at present.

Colum Grogan Headteacher January 2021