



**OULTON**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Remote education provision: information for parents.

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.

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

If there is a school or bubble closure, we will aim to have our remote learning up and running by Day 2. Until this is on the website, children are asked to carry out the daily activities for their year group which are outlined on the individual class pages in the 'Home Learning' section of the website.

### **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:

- Practical lessons will be adapted based upon the resources you might have at home rather than school resources.
- Sequences of learning may be broken down into smaller steps to ensure children have grasped key elements before moving on.
- Some topics may be swapped around so learning that is most suited to the home setting takes place during the school closure period.
- Flexibility will be given around the recording of different learning tasks based upon the resources available to individual families.

## 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:

Reception	Flexible as learning opportunities can be incorporated into play and daily routines by parents.
Key Stage 1	3 hours
Key Stage 2	4 hours

## Accessing remote education

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

Every day, new learning videos will be uploaded onto the class pages in the 'Home Learning' section of our website. Any resources needed will also be available on the website. These videos and resources will remain on the website after the day that they have been set so children/ parents can watch and re-watch them at any time. We understand that some families will only be able to watch the videos at certain times of the day so have made these as accessible as we can.

Children in KS2 also have access to Microsoft Teams which they can log onto using their school email address. Lesson videos and resources will also be available here and children/ parents can use this to interact with learning activities such as quizzes, upload work, ask questions and receive feedback.

Parents of children in Nursery and Reception also have access to Tapestry which will be used to share additional personalised learning tasks, for parents to upload examples of home learning and for parent/ staff communication and feedback.

Each year group has an email address which parents can use to ask questions and send work to teachers. Teachers may also use this email to send additional messages/ instructions to parents and children regarding their home learning.

## **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 have a number of laptops and sim-cards to loan to families who need these resources in order to access our home learning. An initial survey has already been sent to parents to assess need and allocate devices. If families still need support with this, they should contact school via the school office or the year group emails.
- Weekly paper packs of essential resources to support home learning are available from the school office – parents can collect these on Mondays. They can also collect their children’s Maths No Problem workbooks from the school office and a range of other helpful resources, such as exercise books, pens and pencils.
- We aim to enable all families to have internet access (through the above measures) but if any families are still unable to upload work, they can send/ bring it to the school office and class teachers will provide feedback over the phone.

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

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

Most learning tasks will be introduced by familiar Oulton Primary School teachers in the form of pre-recorded videos. We are aware that many families will need to fit home learning around other responsibilities at home so feel videos that can be viewed at any time of the day are the most accessible way to deliver home learning. Some learning activities may also be introduced by audio recordings.

Learning tasks may also be introduced by written / visual explanations in PDF format. These may sometimes have links to other resources, such as websites, video clips and Oak Learning Academy video lessons, as appropriate.

Paper/ printable resources (such as worksheets) will be available for some aspects of the home learning. Teachers are aware that there may be some accessibility issues regarding these resources so will suggest alternatives wherever possible. We have encouraged families to collect children's Maths No Problem workbooks from school to enable the most successful maths learning.

We do not want our children to be sitting in front of a screen all day and we know access to devices is a challenge in some households. Although our learning is usually introduced by video, the independent activities will often have a practical element and written tasks can be completed either on paper or electronically - we would encourage children to use both methods. We want children to continue to practise their physical writing skills so it is important that they still complete some of their work on paper.

Children will have the opportunity to access a weekly live session on Microsoft Teams with their class and class teacher. This meeting will be used to maintain the important social link between children at home and their peers/ teachers, as well as being used to celebrate notable home learning and to give group feedback.

To maintain links and a feeling of belonging in our whole school community, virtual assemblies will be held on a weekly basis for home learners. Some of these assemblies will also include the children attending school. Communication to children at home will happen regularly, either by letter or video message. Whole school events, such as 'Children's Mental Health Week', involving children/ staff at home and at school will still be held and contributions will be shared and celebrated with the school community. Daily information, messages and challenges will be posted on our Facebook page – these will often encourage families to share activities they are doing at home.

## 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 understand that every family is in different circumstances and that some families may really struggle to access and support with home learning. Ideally, we would like all children to access all of the home learning set as this is the statutory curriculum we are continuing to teach to the children who are in school. However, we know this will not be possible for everybody so we ask that all families complete as much as they can.

The amount of support needed for children to complete their home learning will depend largely on their age and ability. However, within school, the children access the type of work we are setting without 1:1 support (usually there are 2 adults supporting nearly 30 children) so parents should not necessarily need to be sitting with their children to support with all of their learning. However, they would ideally need to check in regularly with their child to offer support and motivation. If children are completing their independent tasks very quickly, parents should encourage their children to check that they have done their best work, both in terms of content and presentation. This is something they are used to doing at school.

Families will have the best understanding of what their child needs on a day to day basis and we encourage parents to be responsive to this. However, we do recommend having a routine in place at home where children get up at the same time each day and get dressed, ready for home learning. It may also help for your child to have a dedicated work space if this is possible. We recommend breaking the day up into manageable 'chunks' of home learning between times to play/ exercise/ do other activities that your child chooses – this is how the school day works and the class timetables provided may help with this. As your child is likely to be doing much of their learning online, it is also important that they have a break from the screen. If parents are struggling to put a routine in place/ stick to a routine or with motivating their child to do their home learning, we encourage them to contact school where either the class teacher or one of our Learning Mentors can offer support.

Ensuring children's (and other family members') mental health is supported is essential and we anticipate that some children may struggle more during this time. It is important that families find a balance that works for them and that is sustainable over a number of weeks. We recommend making sure your child does some physical activity every day and resources to give you ideas of different ways to do this are on our website. We also recommend going outside at some point every day.

## **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 check on a daily basis which children have completed and shared their work. As we know some families are accessing the home learning as and when they can, we will not contact families immediately if work is not shared but will email or phone families after a couple of days of no engagement to check everything is OK and to see if there is any way we can support 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:

When work has been shared with a teacher, feedback will be given via Teams or by email on the same/ next day. Teachers will endeavour to reply to these emails as soon as possible but parents should not expect an immediate response or a response outside of working hours. Teachers will use the information they gain from children's work to adapt future lessons and general/ whole class feedback will often be given at the beginning of the following lesson. Staff will not always formally mark each piece of work but will give feedback about what children have done well, anything they appear to have struggled with and address any misconceptions. If a child is struggling with a certain aspect of their learning, we encourage parents to let us know. As a parent, it may be tempting to tell your child some answers or over-scaffold their learning to ensure every part/ answer is correct. However, this means teachers do not get an accurate picture of how the children are doing and cannot offer support/ adapt further learning accordingly. Please help your children with their learning as much as you can but don't do it for them!

## **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:

Work set will be differentiated as it would be in school. Much of our differentiation in school is through support, so it will undoubtedly be necessary for children with additional needs to have more support with their learning at home. Individual discussions will take place regularly between parents and class teachers/ the SENCo in order to advise parents of strategies and approaches they can use to support/ adaptations they can make to learning activities and the daily routine. In some cases, additional learning support from school adults may be offered through phone/ video calls and/ or packs of additional resources. This will be offered in individual cases to support with more significant learning, social or emotional needs. Virtual Speech and Language sessions may also be offered to children who usually receive Speech and Language Therapy in school. Children with EHCPs will be encouraged to attend school if we feel this is what would best meet their needs at the current time. Parents/ Carers and other relevant professionals will also be consulted when making this decision. A more personalised approach will be taken to support their learning (if it does take place at home) to continue to support them to work on their key outcomes. This may include some 1:1 virtual support or teaching sessions from school staff/ other professionals. The SENCo will check in with these families regularly to ensure provision is appropriately supporting the children and to make changes if necessary.

## **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?**

Initially, parents of children who are isolating will be sent a pack which will contain general learning resources for their child's year group. These cover basic skills/general learning objectives for the current term. These packs will also be sent out for children who are awaiting Covid-19 test results. As soon as possible (we aim for this to be by Day 2), further home learning activities will be emailed. These will link directly to the learning taking place in class that week and a timetable will be provided so parents can ensure their child covers the learning for the exact days they are not in school. These learning packs will consist of lesson introduction slides/ explanations in PDF format and any resources that the class will be using in school. These may be accompanied by teaching videos too, but this is not guaranteed and will depend on the number of children isolating/ staff capacity to produce these. Parents can, again, request paper resources or a laptop if they need these to access the home learning. They can also email [homelearning@oulton.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@oulton.leeds.sch.uk) if they need any support and are asked to send work to this email address for feedback. School staff will contact parents of children who do not appear to be engaging with the home learning to offer support. It is important that parents know there is no expectation for children to be doing home learning if they become unwell.

For more information on our remote learning offer, parents are welcome to contact school and speak to either their child's class teacher or Miss Cooper, Deputy Headteacher.

School telephone number: 0113 282 1344

