

St Mary's Catholic Primary Schools Trust

Remote Learning Provision

## **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?**

All children have access to our Virtual School, Fronter. This facility is powered by itslearning.com. Learning challenges are shared to year group specific areas daily for children working from home.

Should children be sent home from school to isolate they will be reminded of this provision and their log in details via a letter to take home. They may additionally be given printed work, books and writing materials as appropriate to their age.

KS1 children also have Maths and English workbooks at home that work may be set from.

KS2 children are provided with additional hard copy resources according to their needs.

### **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?**

The remote offer matches education received in school for the core subjects. Where normal classroom practice includes significant dialogue between child and teacher, the activity is mirrored through use of recorded video, discussion groups and when necessary group video conferencing. This last element is delivered by a platform such as Zoom or Google Teams.

Some adaptations are necessary in foundation subjects, modifying the challenges as appropriate. For example, children's home learning environments will not offer the same space, musical instruments, or other resources and equipment that we provide at school.

## 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	Year 1: 1 to 2 hours per day Year 2: 2 – 3 hours per day
Key Stage 2	3 hours per day

## Accessing remote education

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

Frontier, provided by **itslearning**:

<https://stmarysschools.itslearning.com/>

*Supplemented by, but not solely limited to:*

BBC Bitesize and CBBC television channel

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3g4d2p>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

Oxford Owl Online Reading portal

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

WhiteRose Maths

<https://whiterosemaths.com/for-parents/>

Oak Academy

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

## **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:

- The school has a number of laptops available for loan. The Senior Leadership Team meets every week to make decisions on the allocation of this resource. Priority is given to families of children with EHC plans, children in care, children with Special Educational Needs including disabilities, and families who have received support from the local authority social services. Parents who need support in this provision should contact the school office in confidence by emailing or [admin@st-marys-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-inf.croydon.sch.uk) or [office@st-mary-jun.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-mary-jun.croydon.sch.uk) or by leaving a message on the secure answerphone system 020 8688 2891 (Infant School) / 020 8688 4893 (Juniors)
- In the event of a system failure of Fronter, online activities will be made available on the front page of the school website: <https://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschoolstrust.co.uk/>
- Some children learn more efficiently using offline resources. After discussion with parents, hard copy work packs are provided for collection in a secure area of the school.
- The school offices are manned on a rota system and staff are able to provide guidance to parents.
- Online safety guidance is shared with parents and children via regular newsletters, and on Fronter in assembly sessions by Senior Leadership Staff.

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

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

- Daily recorded teaching using video/audio recordings made by teachers, and from sources such as BBC, Oak Academy and White Rose, with online challenges to complete following these remote lessons.
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers.
- Textbooks KS1 pupils have at home.
- For KS1 Online reading materials from Oxford Owl and Reading Eggs, and Maths resources from Mathletics. For KS2 a greater focus on Oak Academy resources and White Rose Maths for instructional video clips.
- Year group teams blend bespoke video clips with resources at the start of discussion threads where children interact and record learning experiences.

## 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 expect the children to check in daily to see what challenges have been set, and once their work is completed, to upload it for marking and to check back later for feedback.
- For our young children, parental support is invaluable in establishing good daily work habits, in helping the children to develop confidence in accessing and uploading challenges remotely, and to check that they are completing their work to the best of their ability. This will enable you as parents to see if your child needs any further support, which you can raise with the school.
- For older children, we expect parents to have an overview of the tasks completed and to encourage children to take responsibility for the tasks.
- Participation in online learning is reviewed weekly and families are contacted if there are concerns about engagement.
- The SEND team keeps in weekly contact with families where there are particular needs.

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

- As our children are Infant-aged, parents are usually aware of their online access. However, class teachers check pupils' engagement with remote education throughout each week, and if concerned that a child does not access or upload work, we will telephone you to discuss any issues that may be a barrier to such engagement. We offer support via loans of laptops, internet access or paper learning packs as appropriate.
- In the Junior School there is a weekly analysis of learning and parents are contacted if concerns are raised.

### 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:

- Feedback is given daily on the online platform, and can include a simple acknowledgement that work is correct, for example using stars or smiley faces. Where there are errors or mistakes, these are described to the child, and hints given on how to correct the work. When appropriate, further questions or challenges may be posed to encourage deeper thinking or generalisation of learning.
- Printed packs of learning will be marked when returned to school in a timely fashion, with feedback given personally to each child.
- Weekly Zoom assemblies for all year groups.

## **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:

- For pupils with SEND, where the work that they are able to access is considerably different to the normal range of work provided, individualised on-line learning or printed learning packs will be prepared as appropriate.
- As the vast majority of our children are very young (Nursery, Reception and Year 1) we tailor each year group's offering to that age range. Short videos introducing, explaining and modelling learning challenges are uploaded alongside the daily challenges. This enables the children and parents to watch videos at a convenient time, re-watch if needed, and enables parental support for children. This can be particularly beneficial as it allows repeated access, enables the level of challenge in a subject to build daily, and is particularly helpful where mathematics is taught in a different way to how many of our parents themselves were taught – something that is frequently encountered as our school community is culturally diverse.
- In KS2 the SEND team works closely with the Year Group teams to agree support for children, and reports back weekly to the Senior Leadership Team on progress.

## **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?**

- We aim to provide work that mirrors much of that being taught daily in class. This will be uploaded onto the school's online platform, or via a printed pack. It may not be possible to facilitate all foundation subjects, but core subject learning will be covered.