

St Laurence Church Infant School
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. It also gives information about what to expect if individual children are self-isolating while their peers are still in school.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

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

Each week, staff upload the learning for the week to the pupil files section on BGfL for children to access immediately if pupils are sent home to self-isolate. If access to this is not possible the school will email or send a paper copy of all the learning via post. We also signpost parents to phonics live lessons and recommend other remote learning opportunities using commercially available websites including (but not limited to): Oak National Academy, White Rose Maths Hub, Phonics Play, Teach Your Monster To Read, BBC Bitesize, Oxford Owl.

Staff will then set up a schedule of live lessons using Microsoft Teams as part of our blended remote learning offer. More details of this can be found below.

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.

For the majority of our subjects, children learning remotely will be taught the same curriculum as their peers in school. We aim to mirror the resources, learning experiences and teaching as much as possible using BGfL, Microsoft Teams and other learning platforms.

In certain subjects such as PE and Guided Reading, we make every effort to give those children learning remotely, the opportunity to learn in these subjects but they may look different to the delivery of these lessons that are happening in school. We signpost families who are learning remotely to websites such as Oxford Owl and Cosmic Yoga to support families to continue this learning. As reading is a main area of continuing focus for all our children, during bubble closures, reading books are made available for families to exchange safely.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

In the event of class bubbles isolating, staff will begin a programme of blended learning in line with the school's blended learning policy. The timings stated below outline the amount of time children should be learning remotely.

Reception	Daily live remote sessions - 45 minutes Independent directed activities - an average of 1.5 hours
Year 1	Daily live remote sessions - 1 hour Independent directed activities - an average of 2 hours
Year 2	Daily live remote sessions - 1 hour Independent directed activities - an average of 2 hours

It should be noted, in the 'Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools Guidance for all schools in England January 2021' it states that school should provide:

'Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day on average across the cohort, with less for younger children..... Younger children in Key Stage 1 or Reception often require high levels of parental involvement to support their engagement with remote education, which makes digital provision a particular challenge for this age group. We therefore do not expect that solely digital means will be used to teach these pupils remotely.'

We therefore use the timings above as a guide for families and encourage them to work with their child at their pace, taking regular comfort breaks.

Accessing remote education

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

All children in school have access to BGfL, a content management system which enables all children to access an array of support for remote learning. Any remote education offered by our school is uploaded to the 'my files' section into the blended learning folders. In here, families can access all the learning for the week as well as a useful guide explaining in more detail, the learning for the week. We signpost families to useful links, learning videos, Oak National Academy lessons and creative ways for children to record their learning such as jit5.

Reading books will continue to be offered to families to exchange and we also signpost families to useful online reading resources in the 'Reading links' tile on BGfL and ensure that we have daily story time as part of our live teaching offer.

Through accessing BGfL, children also have access to Microsoft Teams. Following the daily schedule previously mentioned, children can access high quality, curriculum matched teaching from staff. If families are unable to attend the live teaching lessons, each lesson is recorded and saved in the 'My Files' section to access at a convenient time. These recordings will be saved for a minimum of 21 days in the files section of the year group team.

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 families have personal devices at home and can access the internet, we endeavor to support these families to access all the elements of our blended learning approach outlined above. We also support parents to access Microsoft Teams through a range of devices such as games consoles and other internet enabled devices. Staff also offer remote demonstrations and guidance to support our families to access the learning for their child.

If the child is unable to access online learning, paper copies of all lessons are sent out to these families for children to continue their learning in line with their peers. We continue to make every effort to support these families with accessing online learning. This may be through loaning school devices and delivering these to families.

It should be noted that the 'Get laptops and tablets for children who cannot attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19)' scheme is not eligible for children in fant schools:

'The number of devices available to order through the get help with technology service reflects the number of laptops and tablets we estimate are needed by each school or college. This calculation is based on:

- *the number of children in **years 3 to 11** (16 to 19 education providers will be contacted during the 2021 spring term when the service is extended to years 12 and 13)'*

Children can submit paper copies of their work for feedback by dropping these into the school office, exchanging their books or upon returning to school.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching through Microsoft Teams
- Downloadable work packs or printed paper packs if families are unable to download them
- Commercially available websites including (but not limited to): Oak National Academy, White Rose Maths Hub, Phonics Play, Teach Your Monster To Read, BBC Bitesize, Oxford Owl,

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 acknowledge and understand that for some families, juggling working from home and/or sharing devices can present its own challenges to learning remotely, especially for young children. We encourage all families to follow a learning schedule that is in line with their child's age and developmental stage but always put the well-being of their child first.

We encourage all our families, where possible, to take part in the daily learning schedule offered. This means:

- Participating in the live teaching sessions, or accessing the recordings of these sessions at a suitable time or when they have access to a device
- Contributing to discussions, questions and reflections in order for staff to address any misconceptions and adapt remote learning to the needs of all learners
- Completing the independent learning resulting from the live teaching
- Uploading completed work to their shared files on BGfL for staff to give feedback

Due to the age of our children, parental support is crucial for children to be able to access and engage with the teaching and learning offered. As previously mentioned, the 'Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools Guidance for all schools in England January 2021' states that:

'Younger children in Key Stage 1 or Reception often require high levels of parental involvement to support their engagement with remote education, which makes digital provision a particular challenge for this age group.'

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

When staff deliver live lessons, we download the attendance for each session to closely monitor which children are participating in the teaching and learning. School leaders identify those children who do not participate in the live teaching and phone calls to the family are conducted to offer support and guidance where necessary. We take a holistic approach to our support, liaising with the relevant staff members such as the SENCO to offer support and guidance to those families.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Conducting in the moment assessment through questioning in which children can respond to using the 'chat' function in Microsoft Teams or unmuting their microphone to contribute to lessons
- Pre-empting and addressing misconceptions as and when they occur
- Any work relating to taught content that is uploaded to their individual files are assessed and feedback is offered by teachers
- Giving positive feedback to achievement through verbal praise and celebration assemblies each week

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 significant 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:

- Adapting work or giving families additional scaffolds and support where required to enable children to access the learning
- Liaising closely with the SENCO to offer further support and guidance to enable all children to engage with remote learning
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Throughout our blended learning offer, we strive to work with the families of all our children to offer them a broad and balanced learning experience that matches the curriculum being taught in school. We are always available to offer our support to all our families and continue to support children's learning and well-being.

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?

As previously mentioned, each week, staff upload the learning for the week to the pupil files section on BGfL for children to access immediately if a child is sent home to self-isolate. If access to this is not possible the school will email or send a paper copy of all the learning via post. We also signpost parents to phonics live lessons and recommend other remote learning opportunities using commercially available websites including (but not limited to): Oak National Academy, White Rose Maths Hub, Phonics Play, Teach Your Monster To Read, BBC Bitesize, Oxford Owl.

When a child begins self-isolating, the child's class teacher will phone the family to check in with them, offer advice and support on how to access the learning and remind families that the children should only complete the work if they are well enough to do so.

For our children on the SEND register and/or on our vulnerable list, a member of staff will call once a week to offer support where necessary.

We will continue to keep in contact with families during the child's period of self-isolation and encourage all families to keep in regular contact with the school if they need any support or assistance.