



Learning through faith,
we dream, believe and achieve.

St. Edmund's CofE Primary and Nursery School

Remote Learning



A Guide for Parents/Carers
Updated January 2021

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents/carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire or partial cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home. For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final 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. We will also adapt our teaching as we adapt to what works best. Your feedback is always useful, and helps to structure our Remote Learning so that it is as accessible and effective as possible.

What should my child expect from their remote education in the first few days of pupils being sent home?

We hope that we will be able to establish a routine for remote education within a few days, based upon previous successful practice. In the initial few days your child may be asked to complete work book based tasks. All classes (apart from FS1) have a set of work books for the spring term 2021 and another set will arrive for the summer term 2021, which will meet the immediate needs of such an occurrence.

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 will endeavour to teach the same core curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and as appropriate. Priority will be given to the teaching of English and Maths. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects based upon available resources and areas of a more practical nature, for example regarding our musical instrument and swimming lessons.

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. These are broad guidelines and should be taken as an average.

Foundation and Key Stage 1 will have up to three hours of learning each day.

We have an expectation of 1 x English lesson, 1 x Mathematics lesson and other Foundation Subject lessons each day, along with a daily phonics session and a daily story.

Key Stage 2 will have up to four hours of learning each day.

We have an expectation of 1 x English lesson, 1 x Mathematics lesson and other Foundation Subject lessons each day, along with Big Maths to take place 3 times a week with a test at the end of the week.

Links to approved sites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences:

				
				If a password is required, it is stored in your child's planner.

Wellbeing Wednesdays

One day per week (on Wednesdays), the children will move to learning which is not 'screen based'. The details of the day will be shared on your child's Seesaw page in advance, so you can make the necessary plans in time.

Some examples of our Wellbeing Wednesdays are: 'Nature Day', 'Chef Day' and 'Sport & Fitness Day'.

If your work schedule at home does not allow you the capacity to join in with enrichment days like these, then Wednesdays can be the day that your child works through sections of their work book packs. In this circumstance, you could call the day 'Work Book Wednesdays'.

Accessing remote education

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

It is important to note that we are reliant on technology working efficiently, and past experience has shown that this can be a source of frustration. We will continue to work with our providers to try to ensure that any interruption to the learning resources are kept to a minimum.

All our children have been allocated a Seesaw account, which is used as our central teaching and learning platform. In addition Zoom may be used to set up scheduled live lessons and meetings.

If my child does not have 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:

- Where possible, we will endeavour to loan out suitable laptops/tablets or other relevant devices, and parents/carers will need to let the school know if these are required. Our supply of these is limited and we made need to prioritise some families.
- If an appropriate notice period is provided regarding future school 'lockdowns', printed materials could be provided for the children to take home before school closes. If written work needs to be submitted, a delivery point will be made available at the school entrance.
- Please be aware that, due to the required reduction in the number of people accessing the school building during a virus pandemic, repeated allocations of printed materials during a closure may not be possible.
- If your child works better on paper, the Seesaw activities can be printed out. We can also provide you with a blank exercise book to record your child's work. You can then share their work with the teacher by taking a photograph and uploading onto their Seesaw page.

How will my child be taught remotely?

A timetable of the learning will be put on your child's Seesaw homepage. Previous experience has shown that a different format of teaching works best for different year groups. Teachers have lots of autonomy in how they deliver the curriculum remotely. Giving teachers the independence to work to their strengths helps to ensure high quality provision. Each approach has its own stronger points and weaker points, so we use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

- recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- live teaching (online lessons):
If live lessons are used, an alternative option will also be available if families aren't able to get on Zoom at that time. There is also a weekly whole-school live lesson timetable (see attached timetable), so there are no clashes between year groups.
- learning activities and slides will always be placed on Seesaw
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities as appropriate (these will be kept to a minimum)
- There is a regular whole class live pastoral session every Friday for every class, which gives the children the opportunity to 'touch base' with their peers and their teachers.

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 all children to participate in our remote learning programme. As a parent/carer your role is invaluable in giving that one to one support, encouragement and guidance. We do however appreciate that this can be challenging, and it is important to provide a balance of expectations which protects the wellbeing of everyone involved.

A clear routine will support the consistency of the curriculum. Remote learning posted on Seesaw may have a completion date/time to be returned and these should allow enough time for the learning to be completed.

Differentiation – How is the learning personalised to meet the needs of my child?

Differentiated learning is expected to be provided in English and Mathematics lessons. This may be in the form of progressively more challenging work that the majority of children take part in. Children with SEND needs and those who are 'gifted' in a particular subject area will have bespoke learning to meet their needs.

Children who may be gifted in a particular foundation subject (for example music) will have an extension activity made available to them.

As learning progresses over a week or a unit of study, the learning should become more personalised for the majority of learners as well.

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

Through their daily contact, every class teacher will be able to monitor pupil engagement. Teachers can see who has viewed and completed their learning on Seesaw. There is a regular whole class live 'pastoral' session every Friday for every class, which can also be used to monitor attendance and engagement. It is important that children attend these sessions to support their emotional wellbeing.

Any concerns will be followed through by a separate session or phone call.

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. Submitted learning will be reviewed by the class teacher, and any individual concerns or comments will be passed on. The use of Seesaw allows for comments to be made, but staff will prioritise which learning to comment upon in order to make this system manageable.

If children have struggled with a particular concept or activity, then misconceptions will be addressed by the teacher.

The Senior Leadership Team will monitor samples of learning to assess the quality, quantity and progress of learning.

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 by asking our Teaching Assistants to support some of the remote learning (this provision may be limited due to our TA's supervising the Key Worker bubbles). This may be through individual or small group live sessions. We also have the facility to support children's emotional wellbeing needs through our ELSA practitioner.

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?

In these cases, the children will be linked to live lessons in class where possible. Resources and learning will be sent home via Seesaw or through a printed pack.

Who should I contact?

With all questions and comments regarding remote learning, your child's class teacher is the first point of contact through Seesaw. For more general comments about remote learning please contact Hannah Pembury (deputy headteacher) or one of our admin team.

hpembury@st-edmunds.notts.sch.uk office@st-edmunds.notts.sch.uk enquiries@st-edmunds.notts.sch.uk

Or you can call our school office on 01623 646624.