

Newport Infant School



Information for parents on our
Remote Education Provision

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 if 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?

Staff will send an email home with PDF links. This will include the computer slides being used within the lessons in school for Literacy and Maths, alongside any resources needed for the activity to be completed. Pupils should also access the phonics videos which are loaded on the website, and their Bug Club account so they can read online books. There may also be some creative activities included in the email. If a child is displaying symptoms and is unwell, they will not be expected to complete the learning, but take time to recuperate.

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. We follow the same timetable which makes it easy for children to continue learning at home. However for children isolating when school is open, they will not have the video input.

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 at least 3 to 4 hours each day.

We ask pupils to follow the same structure as school:

20mins Phonics, 20mins Reading, 1h Literacy, 1h Maths in the morning with movement breaks in between. The afternoon is more flexible depending on your circumstances at home, but another activity will be offered for the afternoon, such as Science, Art, ICT, DT, PE, RE, Geography, History and PSHE work.

In EYFS we ask that the children complete 20 mins phonics, 20 mins Reading, 20 mins tricky word and handwriting focus, 30 mins Maths in the morning with movement breaks and child-initiated play time in between. The afternoon is more flexible depending on your circumstances at home, but another activity will be offered within Topic work on the timetable for the afternoon. Again, allowing time for learning through play.

Accessing remote education

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

Our Remote Learning Offer is uploaded on the school website.

It is in the Parents Area. You then need to click on your child's class and look under homework. The list of teaching slides, resources and a timetable will be included which you will be able to follow links from or print out. We try to keep print outs to a minimum or use sheets that can be easily hand written instead. Most work will just need to be written on lined paper, unless it is work set on Purple Mash or Bug Club.

Parents and Carers can request printed packs of remote learning and a stationery pack and exercise book by phoning school or contacting their class teacher.

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:

- In the event of a whole school / partial closure, staff will swiftly identify which parents do not have access to the internet or a suitable device to support remote learning successfully
- The Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher will coordinate lending devices to those families who do not have a suitable method of accessing the remote learning. Where this is necessary, a home school agreement will be used to support the loan. Where a family do not have access to the internet, the Head Teacher and/or Deputy Head Teacher will apply for support through the Government scheme to provide a dongle for internet access and data.
- Staff will liaise with parents either through Dojo, email or on the phone to arrange for them to collect printed packs from school or for them to be taken to their home each week where they are required. The resources required will be agreed between the class teacher and the parents.
- Pupils who do not have online access to upload work can leave work when they collect their next pack and this can be marked by the teacher and returned the following week.
- For pupils self-isolating who do not have access to digital equipment, school has some capacity to offer short term loans.
- Parents can phone school on 01952386610 or email the Head Teacher on chris.pierce@taw.org.uk for further support.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Our remote learning teaching approaches include:

- Recorded teaching (e.g. Our staff produce videos to assist the teaching and learning. This will use our school language and symbols to promote BLP at home as well as school)
- Recorded Oak National Academy lessons may also be used, (video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Our staff using voice overs on teaching slides to assist with explanations, such as when using Primary Stars Maths or our own made presentations
- Purple Mash Online resource. Teachers will set at least one 'To do' each week
- Bug Club Online Reading Books. Teachers will allocate books for pupils to read and re-read, with comprehension activities included online.
- Phonics Videos on our website. Our staff have produced videos for the Read, Write, Inc Sounds so that pupils can access the sound they need according to the year group timetable.
- Live teaching. Our PE Coordinator will run 'live' PE sessions weekly during whole school closures.
- Teaching slides or instruction sheets for the foundation subjects, alongside any worksheets or handouts.
- Some work may require a worksheet or printed sheet, although we try to keep these to a minimum or adapt so plain/lined paper could be used instead.
- Live assembly. Our Headteacher will lead an assembly to promote positive attitudes to learning through our Gold Star Rewards for children at home and school during whole school closures.

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?

- Pupils are expected to complete at least 3 -4 hours learning across the day. We would really advocate parents getting into a routine with their child, and following this daily as the children will respond more positively to this.
- Phonics and reading are really important and all the Read, Write Inc sounds are available as videos on the website. We purchased the Bug Club Online Reading Scheme so children have access at home to phonetically decodable books at all times. Re-reading is very important to develop fluency so pupils should be encouraged to look back in their library and re-read texts they have completed. Bug Club sets 'bug' questions for pupils to complete as they read and comprehend. Teachers will be looking at the results of these to ensure the books are accurately pitched and adjust book bands accordingly.
- As a school we have tried to support parents by sharing videos that explain to them how we go about writing and some of the key vocabulary that we use. EYFS parents also receive an information sheet explaining how they can support child-initiated learning. In addition to this EYFS parents can access a video on how to support fine and gross motor development, and a video on early writing skills.

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

- Teachers will ask parents to take a photo of at least one piece of written work per week and upload it on the child's portfolio on Class Dojo. The teacher will then provide written feedback for the pupil in the comments. We will encourage more pieces to be uploaded for teachers to see.
- Teachers will also set a 'To Do' activity on Purple Mash, which again will be marked by the teacher.
- During whole/partial school closures, teachers will make wellbeing calls to children not in school every three weeks (more frequently for identified pupils), and during these calls, learning will be discussed and feedback given.
- If teachers are concerned that pupils are not completing enough remote learning, they will discuss concerns with the Headteacher. Phone calls to parents will be made to discuss ways to support the family in home learning or to consider the offer of a part time or full time school place.

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:

- The SENDCO will telephone the parents of the pupil with additional needs and discuss the needs of the child and the parents' capacity to work with them on remote learning. (i.e. whether the parent is working from home, has the capacity to support specialist strategies required to meet the child's needs).
- A plan of support will then be drawn up by the SENDCO and Class Teacher which may include differentiated work, games and activities which support their needs. The programme will be bespoke to the child and parent with regular review dates.
- The offer may include the teacher or some of the TA's working with the child, sending a video message or having a Teams meeting to maintain contact with the child.

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?

- When children have to self-isolate, but the rest of the class are in school, the offer is still very similar. We will have the daily work on the website, following the same learning as the class. Any slide presentations will be converted to PDF and resources needed will be accessible on the website. During whole/partial school closure, live lessons or recordings of teachers will be available to support teaching and learning from home. Feedback will still be given when parents send in work on Class Dojo.