

# Providing Remote Education Information to Parents Policy

Jan 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?

- You should expect that your child will be sent work that he or she can do from home via Microsoft Teams.
- This work will be set by your child's class teacher in the morning so that your child can complete it during the course of the day.
- In the meantime, senior leaders will be organising the best way forwards to ensure that school remains open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers and that the quality of education for all pupils (remote and on-site) is maintained.
- Also during this time, teachers and TAs will be working hard to make plans to move from classroom-based learning to a blended approach to learning, ensuring that the curriculum is the same as it would be if children weren't sent home.

## 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?

- In Early Years and KS1 classes, teachers will post work via Microsoft Teams which will include pre-recorded videos of teachers teaching subjects including Phonics, Writing and Maths.
- In KS2, teachers will live-stream 2 hours and 45 minutes of lessons until 12:30 each day for subjects including Reading, English and Maths. They will upload Topic work via Microsoft Teams too.
- We are committed to providing excellent remote learning thus we teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school.
- However, in Topic-based subjects, we will need to make some adaptations. For example, in Art we will teach sketching instead of painting and in PE, we will engage in Joe Wickes' sessions instead of teaching basketball in 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:

Early Years and Year 1	Up to 2 hours a day
Year 2	On average 3 hours a day
Key Stage 2	On average 4.5 hours a day

## Accessing remote education

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

- We use Microsoft Teams.
- All pupils have been set up with their personal login details and passwords.
- In school, the majority of classes have practised logging on and navigating the site with their teacher in ICT lessons in preparation for any partial school closures announced by the government.

### 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:

- Please speak with your class teacher if you have any issues regarding IT. If you require a device, we will try and issue you with one.
- We will print out Learning Packs if this is preferable to digital learning. Please speak with your class teacher.
- Pupils can take photos of their work to submit to their teachers if they do not engage in online learning.
- If there are any other difficulties or concerns, we are confident that we can work with you and solve it. Please get in touch with your teacher or via email on: [admin@firbeck.org.uk](mailto:admin@firbeck.org.uk) and we will call you back.

### How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- Live teaching (online lessons) for KS2 pupils.
- Pre-recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers) for Early Years and KS1 pupils.
- Printed paper 'Learning Packs' produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets, individual whiteboards and pens etc)
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have at home.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.
- 1:1 support and/or teaching for some of our children (face-to-face and/or online).

## 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?**

Please ensure:

- Your child has somewhere quiet to sit with a table to work on.
- They are not distracted (siblings, TV on etc) and have all of their relevant resources (resource pack given out in first week) and equipment they need to learn best.
- They have had breakfast and a good night's sleep.
- Parents/carers to support non-live remote learning where necessary. The teacher will support pupils during any live sessions.
- Let us know if you meet any difficulties; we are confident that we will be able to support you and your child.

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

- Every day teachers will be recording and tracking whether or not your child has engaged in their learning i.e. logged on, submitted work.
- If your child is not engaging with their work, teachers and/or other members of staff will get in touch and speak with you to see if there is anything they can do to help. Please answer the phone or reply via email. If we cannot get in touch via phone or email, we may have to try and get in touch via letter and/or other means.

## 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. In fact, some of the best forms of feedback are immediate, 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:

- Teachers will feed back to pupils during live remote sessions, for example, using the 'chat room' function to ask children to type their best sentence or their tier 2 vocabulary at that moment, or to hold up their answers on their whiteboard (given out in the first week), asking children to explain their answers etc.
- Teachers will use quizzes that are automatically marked as immediate feedback for pupils.
- Teachers will feed back on work that has been completed and uploaded to Microsoft Teams.
- Teachers will provide whole-class feedback when appropriate.

## 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:

- All of our vulnerable children have a place in school during lockdown where there are staff available to work either 1:1 or in small groups of children.
- However, if for any reason, your child is not on-site, we have dedicated staff members who work with vulnerable and/or SEND children remotely including, either as a 1:1, providing the child with a Learning Pack, support over the phone with the same, consistent member of staff at least weekly or as much as your child/you need.
- If your child is very young and needs support in engaging with remote learning, our Early Years/Year 1 staff will help support you in a range of ways too. We urge you to get in touch, as again, we are confident that we will be able to support you on a bespoke level.

## 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?**

- Depending on your child's age, your child will access the same curriculum, either online (e.g. live streaming of lessons from school or a pre-recorded video) or as a Learning Pack if you prefer. There will always be a member of staff who will be able to help support you or your child should you need it during periods of self-isolation.
- We want to assure you that if this is the case, your child will have access to the same curriculum as they would have on-site.