

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/when local/national restrictions require entire classes (or the whole school) 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 remote education after being sent home?

There are always learning links and challenges on our school website:

<http://www.windmillprimaryschool.co.uk/media/10967/home-learning-links.pdf> and <http://www.windmillprimaryschool.co.uk/media/10966/home-learning-challenges.pdf>. These can be used to keep children working on age-appropriate learning activities as an interim measure, before specific and directed tasks are communicated.

As soon as is practically possible for the class teacher, they will begin communicating with families on ClassDojo as regards what their children should be doing and when.

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example:

- Music teaching is more restricted but still possible through lessons and activities recorded by our specialist music teacher, Mrs Jackson.
- PE usually requires a larger space and specialist equipment, but Coach Carl will set daily active challenges via video.
- Design and Technology projects will be either adapted or postponed to later in the school year.

Remote teaching and study time each day

We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly 3 to 5 hours each day – more for KS2 pupils compared to EYFS and KS1.

Accessing remote education

We will mostly be using ClassDojo to communicate with parents, carers and children at home, but some files will be stored on our school website:

<http://www.windmillprimaryschool.co.uk/covid-19-provision-home-and-school>

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:

We are able to lend school-owned laptops and wireless internet routers with data cards to families that need them. Families may request help with this through the child's class teacher and this will be referred to the school's ICT and welfare teams who will assess the need and make contact with the family.

While a family is waiting for this provision, they may access the tasks using a mobile phone and use pen/pencil and paper to complete the tasks, sending a photograph of the completed work to the teacher via ClassDojo.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Recorded teaching (video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Worksheets and instructions prepared by teachers and shared on ClassDojo
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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 would like:

- Children to try and complete all of the tasks set each day
- Families to support this by setting routines to support your child's education
- Be positive with your child and give praise for their efforts

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

We will use ClassDojo to check how much children are doing at home:

- We will keep a record of the children's Portfolios in ClassDojo and we will monitor families' responses to ClassDojo messages
- If we have a concern we will let you know first through ClassDojo messages and then we will try to contact you by telephone
- If we do not get a positive response from you, one of the Welfare Team will contact you to offer support

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:

- We will use recall quizzes to see what children have remembered
- We will also keep an assessment record based on the work done in children's Portfolios
- We will give feedback to children and families through Portfolios and through messages on ClassDojo

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:

Mr Millington, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator, will check with class teachers that they are able to set tasks for children with SEND that are accessible with minimal support from adults at home. If it is necessary for adults at home to support, class teachers will communicate especially carefully with those families so as not to make the workload and expectation overwhelming.

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 an individual child has to isolate and the rest of their class is in school, we will provide a paper-based learning activity pack for them by 10am on the first day of their isolation. The child can submit daily evidence of their work via Portfolios and/or Messages on ClassDojo and the teacher will give feedback.