



This document is for pupils, parents and carers. Its purpose is to share information about how we will provide remote education during periods of school closure or pupil isolation relating to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Remote Learning Information for Parents

Loatlands Primary School

Pathfinder Schools

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents and 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 document.

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?

- Children will be provided with home learning via Microsoft Teams to complete in their blended learning book (this should already be at home and also has their login details for Microsoft Teams stuck inside the front cover). In the case of a child not being able to access online material, pupils can access the CGP workbooks sent home in the Autumn Term.

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. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in History, your child may be asked to watch online videos or complete tasks similar to those that we are completing 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:

Reception and KS1	Minimum is 3 hours
KS2	Minimum is 3 hours

Accessing remote education

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

Pathfinder Schools have created their online classroom in Microsoft Teams which provides a secure learning environment for our pupils.

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 have a small number of devices that can be loaned to families to complete online learning – these will be distributed to families following completion of a loan agreement.
- We also have a small number of SIM cards available that will support parents to increase their internet access for pupils.
- If pupils or parents / carers continue to experience issues accessing the online learning they can contact the school for technical support.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Morning and afternoon 'check in' sessions where teachers will share work for the day and any instructions children might need.
- Recorded teaching (e.g. lessons that are pre-recorded by school staff / Oak National Academy lessons)
- Tasks and quizzes set via Microsoft Teams in the 'Assignments' section
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have at home e.g. the CGP workbooks provided to families during the Autumn Term.
- Opportunities to seek help from teaching and support staff via the 'Posts' section on Microsoft Teams. Staff may then be able to conduct 1:1 or small group sessions to offer additional support.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas e.g. Oxford Owl / Times Table Rockstars/Spelling Shed

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 log in to Microsoft Teams each day to access their learning and, as far as possible, complete all tasks that have been set for the day.
- We recognise that for some families it will not be possible for pupils to login to the live sessions with their teacher every day but we would recommend that they do this as often as possible in order to maintain contact with school staff and their peers. These sessions are invaluable for maintaining our sense of community and providing pupils with the opportunity to ask questions.
- It may be helpful to set a daily schedule for your child(ren) that suits your families arrangements.
- Ensuring that you child has all of the equipment that they need before they start can be really helpful. If there are any resources that you need e.g. pencils, paper, ruler etc, please contact the school and we will be happy to help.
- Help your child to login and access the content that they need for the day.
- Don't feel that you need to 'teach' your child, try to help them to understand the content if you can and contact us for more support if you need it.
- Ensure that your child takes regular breaks for fresh air and time away from their screen – remember that during a typical day in school children would have a break / change of activity every hour or so (at a maximum – sessions are shorter for younger children)
- Check that they have completed the work for the day and uploaded it to Microsoft Teams.
- Don't feel that you need to contribute during your child's sessions – you can just be a quiet observer

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

- Teachers will monitor who has accessed the online learning on a daily basis. (Microsoft Teams provides us with this information automatically when your child views a task)
- If a child does not login to Microsoft Teams for 2 days in a row, a member of school staff will call parents to check that everything is working well and discuss whether there is any further support that the school can offer.

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:

- The teacher will access completed work in the Microsoft Teams 'Assignments' sections and provide feedback where appropriate.
- Pupils will receive feedback as required but this will be at least once per week.
- Feedback may be in the form of a written comment, an email to parents or an audio recording.

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:

- Where children would normally receive additional support from SEND agencies, the SENCO will make arrangements for these to continue via Microsoft Teams as long as the agencies are able to engage.
- The SENCO will liaise with class teachers to prepare a small number of home learning activities that can be accessed in a format that is more appropriate to the child. Alongside these activities parents can also practise daily reading and phonics with their 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?

- It is our aim that we will continue to ensure that pupils that are self-isolating or shielding continue to be taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects, including providing feedback.
- Teachers will work as a team to map online resources that mirror the learning that is taking place in class. These will be uploaded to the assignment section of Teams and scheduled in advance to mirror the structure of the school week.
- The school will monitor access to the blended learning resources and liaise with parents if a pupil is not engaging.
- Pupils will have the opportunity to undertake a daily, online, pre-prepared English, Maths and Topic activity alongside their daily reading, spellings and times tables practice so will be expected to login on to Microsoft Teams to access this learning.
- Children will submit work via Microsoft Teams and teachers will provide periodic feedback. Children can choose to complete their work offline and upload a photograph of their completed work if they prefer.
- Children will have the opportunity to access the class message board and seek support if needed. The teacher will reply when possible during the day.