

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School – 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?

Children who need to access remote learning will be able to access our online Learning Platform – Class Dojo. Staff will upload lessons daily with a clear structure to support children to manage their time at home. Children will be given access to an exercise book to use at 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?

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

Primary school-aged pupils	Please refer to Government Guidance regarding number of hours and minimum expectations for remote provision. Children
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	will continue to have access to a broad and balanced curriculum.
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Accessing remote education

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

To work together as a community, the school will use Class Dojo as a learning platform to help bring the best learning experiences into classrooms and homes. Early Years Foundation Stage will use 'Tapestry'.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

The school will work closely with families to ensure that all children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. The school will work with the local authority to provide either laptops, a work pack, exercise books for children to record work in and also look into internet connection for families who meet the criteria.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Here are some examples of remote teaching approaches depending upon family circumstances:

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, BBC learning, White Rose Maths or video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- exercise books and reading books pupils may have at home
- 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 expect parents to support and encourage their child with engagement of activities and to liaise with the class teacher's on Dojo if necessary. All lessons will have a clear structure organised onto one power point for ease of access to support a daily routine. All work uploaded will be available at all times for parents and children to access as we feel this is more beneficial for families who are unable to provide technology for families who have several children in the family home and the requirements for all children to be learning at exactly the same time each day. This will also help parents who are trying to work from, manage their commitments along with their child's learning. Class Dojo or Tapestry, is an excellent way to share your child children's work, clips or photographs, which can be uploaded for the teachers to view and feedback on. Teachers will provide a virtual 'Teacher Teams Meet' once a week. We understand that not all families will be able to access the virtual meet due to other commitments, therefore we will change the day/time on a weekly basis.

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

The class teachers will check whether work has been accessed on a daily basis. If, after 2 days, there has been no interaction, the school will follow up with a phone call home to ensure that families are supported with any difficulties they may have.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Teachers and Learning Support Assistants will provide feedback daily. This may be in the form of a general comment to work uploaded, a Dojo sticker, or a personal comment to children individually. Teachers will also provide opportunities for a virtual 'Teacher Teams Meet' with children weekly. Children and parents may message the class teacher should they have any difficulties or worries.

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:

Close liaison between the SENDCo and families to ensure children can access learning which meets their individual needs. Access to the Pastoral Support Manager via a direct email and the SENDCo. Early Years Foundation Stage will use 'Tapestry' as an online learning journal in partnership with parents.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, provision may differ slightly. This may be due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school. However, all lessons will continue to be uploaded daily onto Class Dojo.

Communication

Parents are encouraged to liaise with the class teacher in the first instance with regards to remote learning and any difficulties they may have. The SENDCo, Mrs Austin, will be available via telephone or email: sen@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk should you have concerns about your child's special educational needs. Our Pastoral Support Manager, Jody Deamer, will continue to be available for advice or support via telephone or email: flo@st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk.

Should you have any safeguarding concerns or are worried about a child, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Le Breton, or our Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Deamer, via the school office. Should you have concerns about a child outside of school hours, please contact Children's Services via the following link: [Worried about a child - Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership](#).

We would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support to ensure the best possible outcomes for our children and to keep the community safe. **Thank you.**

