

ST. MARY'S 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?

Work will be set on each year group's Purple Mash blog for children to complete. This may include worksheets (which can be completed on a Word [or similar] document) or Purple Mash's "2Dos". Teachers may also provide pre-recorded or live teaching videos or alternative high-quality videos from other sources.

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, P.E. or Science, where not all activities/lessons are manageable and effective without specialist equipment.

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:

Primary school-aged pupils	The Department for Education recommends the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day on average• Key Stage 2: 4 hours a day Pre-School and Reception will receive short blocks of activity throughout the day
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Accessing remote education

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

Your child will need to login to Purple Mash (login details can be requested through school) where the teacher will post each day the details of learning on the blog and throughout the day may also need access to Zoom.

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:

The DfE have provided some devices for school to distribute to families, based on a set criteria. Families who meet this criteria have been contacted, however, if you need support, please contact the school. A device agreement will need to be signed.

We have very small number of iPads available for children where there is not another device in the house. These will be allocated on a first come, first served basis- please contact the school office. A device agreement will need to be signed.

School has a number of Vodafone sim cards with free data for internet access. These can be used in tablets, dongles and other Wi-Fi devices. Please contact the school if you would like one to assist with learning at home.

We apologise if school have not be able to provide you with a device, we wish we could offer this to all. If you are unable to access the online learning due to a lack of device, we can provide a printed learning booklet either to be posted to you or collected from school. If you are able, pictures of work can be sent to teachers each day via email from smartphones, or children can bring the booklets with them when school re-opens fully.

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 that we will use:

- live teaching (online lessons) via Zoom
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Slides/PowerPoints detailing models and learning
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- “2Dos” from Purple Mash
- Activities set which take pupils away from the screen

Teachers aim to set meaningful and ambitious work each day in a range of subjects. This will be generally equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school.

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?

- Make every effort to access the learning each day to avoid widening gaps in children's education
- Setting routines for children to follow throughout the day – please see the suggested timetable in the Remote Education Policy. These routines will vary dependent on your family make-up. Ensure they work for your family.
- Supervise children whilst accessing a computer or device and ensuring practice is in line with e-safety guidelines
- Encourage children to engage with the learning.
- Respond to school phone calls.

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

- Teachers will take a register each day of children who have engaged with learning on Zoom, which will be checked alongside work submitted on Purple Mash
- In the first instance, reminders will be sent with details on how to access work.
- Phone calls may be made weekly if there are any concerns with regards to engagement with learning

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:

Pupils will receive feedback on their work for each lesson. This may be through:

- Whole-class verbal feedback
- Group verbal feedback
- Individual verbal feedback
- Automatic feedback through various digital platforms
- Through the comments box on Purple Mash next to the pupil's work
- As comments on the Purple Mash blog
- Through Purple Mash emails

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:

- Resources uploaded to support learning to meet children's individual needs, following recommendations from outside agencies
- Activities uploaded to work on children's individual targets
- Work set is differentiated taking into account the individual needs of pupils with additional needs
- Support from a teacher/TA if needed via Purple Mash emails or zoom
- Printed resources provides where needed

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?

Where individual children are self-isolating, teachers will upload to Purple Mash a recording of the modelling and writing done on screen during the lesson in school, with voiceover, and any work being set in school. Feedback will be given by teachers before the start of the next lesson in the sequence of lessons.