

REMOTE LEARNING PROVISION AT SOMERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL:



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

This information is intended to provide a guide for parents or carers and pupils about what to expect from remote education if local or national restrictions require entire classes (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 guide.

OUR REMOTE CURRICULUM:

What is taught to the children at home?

We will endeavour to provide a broad and rich remote curriculum to our children when they are not in school as quickly as possible. This learning may look different in the initial stages of any period of remote learning.

What will happen on the first few days of a pupil being sent home?

We will send learning for your child to complete at home. This learning may be paper based and will be sent to you via email or delivered or, if you are not having to self-isolate yourself, you may be asked to collect this from school.

If your child's class, bubble or the whole school are already working remotely then your child will be expected to engage in the remote learning as described below.

After the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would be 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 PE we are unable to teach team sports remotely. Where we are unable to teach areas of the curriculum remotely, we will endeavour to catch up with these areas when the children return to 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 follow government guidelines and expect that remote education will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

EYFS: 3 hours

KS1: 3 hours

KS2: 4 hours

If your child is taking longer to complete the learning, please speak to their class teacher and we will look at ways to support you with this.

Will this learning include live lessons with my child's class teacher?

Each day there will be a 40 minute live lesson on Microsoft Teams with your child's class teacher. These lessons are spread out across the day for different classes so that if you have children in different year groups they will all be able to access their own lessons. These lessons will cover different areas of the curriculum. Your child's teacher or other members of staff may also invite you to other remote sessions in smaller groups. Please follow our Microsoft Teams protocol when attending any live lessons.

ACCESSING REMOTE EDUCATION

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

Our main platform for delivering our remote curriculum is Microsoft Teams. You will have received a username and password to access this platform. All live lessons and learning tasks will be accessed through Microsoft Teams. We will continue to use other online resources such as Times Tables Rockstars and Spellzone and will communicate messages about the children's learning via Marvellous Me as usual.

Where will I find the resources for my child's learning?

Learning for the week will be outlined on a weekly timetable posted on Microsoft Teams. This timetable will include links to websites and other materials to support the children's learning. The timetable will be posted on Teams ready for the beginning of the week.

All resources to support this learning will also be posted on Microsoft Teams in the Class Materials folder in the files section.

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 are taking the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- The school will allocate and loan devices including: laptops, iPads and wireless dongles to families who may have difficulties accessing remote learning. If you are having difficulties accessing the remote learning, including if you have multiple children trying to access via one device, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact Mr Wallace via the school office email: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk
- We will issue these devices on the basis of need and will support families to use them. We will also monitor whether devices are being used to regularly access the remote learning. Where devices are not being used we will initially support families to access them. If devices are still not being used we will look to reallocate them to other children.
- We can also apply to your mobile provider on your behalf to increase your data allowance with no additional charge. Please contact the school office email (office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk) for further information.
- If you need printed versions of any learning, please contact your child's class teacher and we will discuss this with you.

METHODS FOR REMOTE LEARNING

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live lessons on Microsoft Teams led by your child's class teacher. These will take place for 40 minutes daily and cover a range of subjects
- 1:1 and smaller group sessions on Microsoft Teams led by teachers or other school staff
- Some recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers, BBC Bitesize, Oak National Academy lessons)
- Reading books children may have at home
- Access to a variety of online resources such as Times Tables Rockstars, Spellzone, BBC Bitesize, Phonics Play etc.
- Practical activities and activities to support physical and mental health
- **It is important to note that in response to our survey of parents' views after the last lockdown we will provide a range of both online and offline activities as we do not want children to be sat at a screen all day. Please let your class teacher know if you feel we are not getting this balance right.**

ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK

What are the school's expectations for my child's engagement with the remote learning?

Children may not be able to access the school building but we are still open for learning and children are expected to attend as in school. We expect all children to engage with our remote learning and we will do everything in our power to support them to do this.

Children should attend all live lessons. Where children are not regularly attending these sessions we will look to support with digital devices or by working alongside parents to address any particular needs.

Children should complete assignments which have been set on Microsoft Teams daily. This will include completing practical activities, quizzes and worksheets both on and offline as well as uploading their learning or photos of their learning to Microsoft Teams.

What support should we as parents and carers provide at home?

We appreciate how challenging remote learning can be for parents and carers and again we will support you in any way we can to help your children to learn effectively from home.

A key element of this is that you ensure that your child attends live lessons where they will have an opportunity to meet with their teacher and classmates.

It is also helpful if you attend the sessions with your child as this will be an opportunity for you to engage with teachers. We will offer opportunities for you to ask questions during these sessions.

If you have problems attending the live lessons or completing the assignments, please speak to your child's class teacher and they will support you to resolve any issues.

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

Again, we understand how difficult it can be for children to complete learning remotely and we want to support you to help the children to complete the learning which is set for them.

The teachers will keep a register of those children who attend live lessons and where children are not regularly attending these sessions, the class teacher will contact you and explore the reasons behind your child's non-attendance and support you to improve the situation.

The teachers will also keep a record of the children's completion of assignments and learning which has been set for the children on Microsoft Teams. If there is not enough learning being completed, the class teacher will contact you and explore the reasons why and again, will support you to overcome any barriers to engagement.

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

The children's learning and progress are really important to us. We want to acknowledge the children's efforts as well as identify what steps they need to take to improve their learning even further.

Feeding back to the children about their learning can take many forms including:

- speaking to them directly during a live lesson or in a smaller follow up group,
- giving them a thumbs up during a lesson,
- green highlighting their learning intention (the title of their work which explains what they are learning about),
- adding their name to the 'call of fame' in the next lesson,
- placing their work on display (in a classroom or in a public space on Microsoft Teams),
- smiling at them when they get an answer correct
- writing a comment on their work.
- sending a Marvellous Me message or assigning a badge

Where children complete assignments in Microsoft Teams the teachers will give them feedback. Sometimes this will be as a written comment attached to the work or a green highlight of the learning intention.

We will also be producing reports as usual and feeding back more broadly about the children's progress.

We are also available to conference with parents and children together on Microsoft Teams about next steps for their learning.

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 our 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:

- Parents with children who have an Education Health Care Plan will be contacted by our SENCo, Mr Thorne and offered a place in our in-school provision (if they are not self-isolating)
- Mr Thorne will also continue to liaise with class teachers and oversee the provision for all children who have an identified SEN
- Teachers may stay on after live lessons to support children's understanding
- Teachers will provide differentiated learning in the child's files on Teams
- Speech and Language sessions will continue via Teams
- Thrive sessions will take place via Teams
- Therapy sessions will continue either via Teams or face to face if possible
- If you have any concerns regarding the provision for your child during any periods of remote learning, please speak initially your child's class teacher via the class email
- If you still have questions about their provision, please contact Mr Thorne via the school email address: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk

REMOTE EDUCATION FOR SELF-ISOLATING PUPILS

How will things be different if my child is well but self-isolating on their own or in a small group?

We will continue to use Microsoft Teams as our main method of delivering our remote learning. Timetables and resources will still be posted on the platform.

Where possible those children isolating will be able to join in with 'live lessons' from the classroom where the other children will continue to learn.

The teachers will continue to provide feedback on any learning submitted by children who are self- isolating. They will contact you and the children via Teams at least weekly to ensure that progress and your child's wellbeing are maintained.

How do I offer feedback about the remote provision?

We have worked hard to make our remote offer effective and engaging. However, we value constructive feedback about our remote learning offer from parents. If you have any positive comments or would like to share things that are not working or could be improved, please let us know via the office email (office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk).