

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy

Information for parents on Remote Education Provision

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or 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?

Remote education provision will commence within 24 hours of closure. For the first day of closure, pupils can access numerous website links provided through the academy website, many of which are used regularly in school and will be familiar to the children, such as Times Tables Rockstars and Purple Mash.

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, some adaptations may be made in some subjects where practical work would ordinarily be required to teach a particular lesson. Subjects such as Art and Design, Design and Technology, Science, Physical Education, and Music often require specific equipment that will not be available to all pupils at home and so activities planned will be adapted to cater for this.

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:

Early Years	3 hours
Key Stage 1	3 hours
Key Stage 2	4 hours

Each phase of the academy will keep to a timetable format with remote learning, with some lessons taking place daily, others several times per week, and others once per week. The details below provide a general guide to our remote provision format in each phase of the academy. Precise timetables will be provided by staff:

- Early Years

Daily Story, Phonics, Maths, and PE, with RE twice per week, Topic three times per week, plus additional time for Reading daily

- Key Stage 1

Daily Phonics, English, Maths, PE, and Reading, with RE and Topic both twice per week, and PSHE, Spellings, and a Story Sequencing activity all once per week

- Lower Key Stage 2

Daily English, Maths, and PE, with RE twice per week, Topic three times per week, a weekly Spelling and Arithmetic Test, plus French and PSHE both once per week, a weekend challenge, and additional time for Reading

- Upper Key Stage 2

Daily English, Maths, and PE, with RE and Topic both twice per week, plus French, PSHE, and Art and Craft all once per week, as well as additional time for Reading.

Accessing remote education

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

For Early Years pupils, work will be posted on the academy website on their relevant class page. For Years 1-6, Remote learning will be accessible through the Google Classroom platform via the home page of our academy website. Click on the 'Home Learning' link and then your child's 'Class' link. Staff have delivered lessons in school with your children using this platform so that they are familiar with its use. Log-in details have been provided to all families in advance in case of lockdown procedures commencing. Please contact the academy if you experience any issues and we will gladly support you.

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:

- In the Advent Term we issued and collated a Technology Survey in preparation for possible remote learning. If required, we will use this information to quickly contact all families who have indicated an issue with access to IT and provide support through the offer of Chromebook devices that belong to the school
- Our loan agreement system is already in place and signed by most families who would require such support, but please do contact us if a further need arises that we would not be aware of
- Chromebook devices and chargers can be collected from the Academy Office. We will arrange and agree with you a time for collection. If you are unable to collect the device for any reason, we will ensure it is delivered to you
- If internet connectivity is an issue please contact the academy and we will try to help. In the event that any issues cannot be resolved, the academy will provide paper copies of home learning packs. Again, these can be delivered to homes if necessary
- Where paper copies are issued we will liaise with families directly as to how work is handed in or collected for marking.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

A range of approaches will be used, including:

- Activities provided in various formats using Google Classroom
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- Websites the academy subscribes to, including Times Tables Rockstars, Purple Mash, Serial Mash, and Mini Mash (Early Years)
- Regular phone calls to pupils and families will be made by staff to ensure that the children are coping with the work, to discuss any issues, and to simply ask how things are and keep in touch. The SENCO, Mrs. Sawczuk, will also liaise regularly with relevant families, and our Nurture/Pastoral Leader, Mrs. James, will be available for contact through the pastoral email or by phone should any pupils or parents need to speak with her
- We have opted not to deliver live teaching as our academy has a significant number of families who do not have enough devices for each child within their family. To opt for live teaching would, therefore, exclude some children from their lessons. By posting lessons in the way we have, families can access the learning each day at a time to suit them, which may be useful around parents' working hours. Staff will, therefore, on the whole be available to interact with pupils through the Google Classroom platform during working hours. A number of teachers each morning will also be in school delivering lessons face to face for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

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 all children to complete the work set to the best of their ability and to submit this for marking and feedback as instructed on a daily basis. If for any reason difficulties arise and your child is struggling to complete the work, please contact the academy and we will ensure the class teacher gets in touch
- Older pupils are encouraged to take more responsibility for their learning and should be capable of accessing their work and submitting this independently
- We ask for the support of all parents in helping and encouraging your children with their online learning. We understand that our families face many different pressures and challenges at this time so ask you to simply do your very best to work with and help your children. If any parents are seeking advice or support, please contact the academy and we will do our very best to help.

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

- Class teachers will be monitoring pupil engagement on an ongoing daily basis
- Regular wellbeing phone calls will take place as a matter of course, but where pupils are not engaging, teachers will make specific phone calls to parents to look into why this is the case and to offer support where needed
- Any concerns of a safeguarding nature will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Leader, Miss Smith
- If the academy is unable to make contact with a pupil or family, a home visit will be made
- We will endeavour to support all families whatever their situation so that remote learning is as effective as possible for each child.

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:

- Feedback to pupils through the Google Classroom platform and the Evidence Me app for Early years will be on a daily basis as far as is possible
- Feedback will range from individual comments to whole class feedback and will vary in length depending on the task. In some cases it may be a score with a simple comment
- As far as is possible, teachers will also interact live with pupils whilst they are working, thus supporting ongoing learning and assessment
- Teachers will use these assessments to inform their future planning of lessons.

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:

- All lessons will be differentiated so that the work set has varying degrees of difficulty, and this will incorporate work suitable for pupils with SEND needs
- The SENCO, Mrs. Sawczuk, will keep in regular contact with relevant families to provide advice and support if required, and if additional work is needed, this may be supplied through additional paper resource packs or signposting to particular online materials.

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?

All pupils, including those who are self-isolating, are taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects, including the provision of feedback by the class teacher. For individual pupils self-isolating, work will be provided as paper packs and can be delivered to family homes if required. When returned, work will be isolated for 3 days before being marked and subsequently returned.

The Academy Office will also remain in weekly phone contact with affected families.