

Remote Education: Information for Parents

Jan 2021

This information is intended to help parents and carers understand what to expect from remote education if pupils are required to remain at home for reasons related to Covid-19.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent 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.

The school website already contains a range of learning materials for pupils to access under these circumstances. These are saved by year group in the remote learning section in the folders labelled: Self-isolation packs.

From the outset of the latest National Lockdown announcement (January 2021), new learning activities and suggested timetables have been made available to all pupils, accessible via our school website. These are saved by year group in the remote learning section in the folders labelled: Spring Term Learning packs.

Additionally, printed learning packs have been produced for families that have requested them.

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?

Yes, although there will of course be instances where teachers need to adapt curriculum content in order to make the learning as accessible as possible to parents and to offer a broad enough range of challenge for pupils. Video tutorials will be available to explain key concepts that are introduced in core subjects. Tapestry is used to support the learning in EYFS.

Live lessons (via Microsoft Teams) have already been introduced for pupils in Upper Key Stage 2, with plans to extend this offer to all of the pupils in KS2, these 'mirror' the lessons taking place in school.

The timetable of learning suggested to parents will mirror what pupils will be used to at school i.e. core subjects such as reading, writing and maths in the mornings, followed by the broader range of foundation subjects in the afternoons (including, importantly, opportunities for physical activity).

The home learning will comprise of highly structured tasks as well as more open-ended and creative activities that offer parents and pupils a greater element of choice.

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:

Number of hours	We recognise that all families have different routines and circumstances. However, as a general guide we expect KS1 pupils to be engaging in learning activities for a minimum of three hours each day and KS2 pupils for a minimum of four hours . With our youngest pupils (EYFS) this will be discussed individually with parents and will vary according to each child's stage of development.
Breakdown of hours	Each year group will offer parents a suggested timetable for the week, broken down daily. In addition, teachers are always available on Tapestry, year group email or by phone to discuss a pupil's needs or any particular family circumstances which may impact upon learning time.

Accessing remote education

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

Pupils can access the remote learning resources and activities through our school website:

<https://www.eastbrook.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Remote+Learning&pid=262>

Year group pages will be updated weekly and parents notified. Starting with the older pupils, live interactive lessons will be accessed using Microsoft Teams, with instructions on how to do this emailed to parents. Safeguarding guidance, linked to accessing remote learning has also been made available to parents.

Parents of EYFS children will also receive communications and access learning via Tapestry.

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 learning materials that are posted weekly on the school website are also printed out as a pack for families who require this. We also realise that for some families on-line learning provides additional challenges. For example, if a child is unable to access a device such as an ipad, phone or laptop, we may be able to provide support with a device or by providing additional internet data e.g. using a dongle. The school may directly contact identified families about this, however, parents should contact the relevant year group email address if they feel any of these arrangements would benefit them.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- A weekly timetable of learning activities with linked resources, such as text extracts and worksheets, accessible via the school website (or printed if requested)
- Live teaching (online lessons), including use of Microsoft Teams
- Recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers, links to BBC Bitesize or Oak National Academy lessons)

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 hope that parents are able to set aside structured time every day for learning in a quiet and calm environment. They will need to have access to a phone, tablet, laptop or computer with an internet connection, in order to complete online learning. If this is not the case, as mentioned above, parents/carers should notify the school using the year group email address so that alternative provision can be arranged. Parents should have other learning materials available, such as pens, pencils, paper, glue etc. or inform teachers via the year group emails if essential resources are required, as the school will provide these.

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

Teachers will acknowledge receipt of all completed learning on a weekly basis, providing feedback and encouragement via Tapestry and the year group emails. The school will also proactively contact any families to offer support and guidance if limited work is received or if the work completed does not reflect the expected standard for that pupil.

Parents should notify their child's teacher (via the year group email address) if they are unable to complete work or are struggling with it in any way. Similarly, parents should make the school aware if their child is unwell and unable to complete work.

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:

Children will be asked to submit completed work for marking and feedback to gauge their understanding and progression but also to provide motivation. Parents are encouraged to share their own observations on how their child is doing, using the year group email address, not just in terms of the standard of work completed but also the pupil's level of motivation and well-being. Video messages posted by teachers will also highlight successes and celebrate the learning of all pupils.

Where children are using paper packs, these can be returned, when collecting the next pack, for teacher's to provide feedback in-line with our Marking and Feedback Policy.

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 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:

Class Teachers will have identified their pupils with SEND to ensure that they have access to tailored work and support as necessary. This may include offering: differentiated activities, an adapted timetable of learning or alternative approaches to delivering and managing learning tasks. The school's SENCo will contact teachers and parents of identified pupils, such as those with an EHCP, to ensure that educational and pastoral provision is appropriate and effective. The school will make every effort to accommodate requests from parents for a place for their child at school; this will need to be assessed on a pupil by pupil basis depending on individual circumstances, pupil need and availability of places.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, the manner in which remote education is provided will normally need to 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?

Prior to the current National Lockdown (January 2021), the school provided learning packs for pupils self-isolating at home. These were made available to all via the school website. Currently, pupils in keyworker/vulnerable pupil 'bubbles' at school are being taught the same curriculum content as pupils are receiving at home.

Further Information

To keep up-to-date with all school news, including the provision of remote learning during the National Lockdown, please refer regularly to:

- The school website <https://www.eastbrook.w-sussex.sch.uk/>
- The school's fortnightly Newsletter (available on the website)
- School email communications/Tapestry

Please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher on the relevant year group email address for any questions about your child's learning or, for more general or urgent queries, the school office email (office@eastbrook.w-sussex.sch.uk Tel: 01273 874050).