

Mere Green 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 document.

If you have any questions or queries about our remote learning provision, please contact your child's Phase Leader. Miss Lucia Thornton EYFS, Mr Sean Boyd for Key Stage 1 and Mrs Tracy Thistlethwaite for Key Stage 2.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

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.
- Our remote learning provision, for all core subjects, is coherent and carefully sequenced and mirrors the curriculum which would have been taught in school at this point in the year.
- We have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects, for example P.E. We would encourage families to take daily exercise in line with the Government restrictions as well as following the suggestions in our remote learning resources.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- All children will have a live-meeting with their class teacher twice a day. These meetings are to be used to register, check-in on each other, talk and explore feelings, self-esteem and assess levels of motivation.
- All children will receive a mixture of high-quality live and pre-recorded teaching, delivered daily by the year group staff (unless the class teacher is unwell) using Zoom.
- All children will receive daily learning activities uploaded to **Tapestry** (for Nursery, Reception and Yr1) and **Showbie** (for Years 2 to 6) which will support pupils to work flexibly and independently. This will support the live learning led by our teachers and is available on the apps named above.
- Reading is 'set' as part of weekly home learning with all children across school expected to read daily. All children will be allocated activities based on their reading proficiency.
- All children will also have the opportunity to listen to a daily story read by one of the staff at school.
- Children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will have a two reading lessons each day, one live with a teacher and one pre-recorded. Children are signposted to access the Read, Write Inc phonics lessons based on their reading proficiency.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo7bLgY2oA_cFCIq9GdxtQ
- In KS 2 (years 3-6), teachers may ask children to complete videos found on the Oak National Academy website or BBC Bitesize to support their learning; or direct them to other educational activities that may fit with their learning or that that they may be interested in.
- Some children will have additional small group lessons to support their individual learning needs and their well-being.
- Teachers may also set non-academic challenges for pupils e.g. treasure hunts, maths walks, building dens etc.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

The Department for Education recommends that schools set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school. This includes both remote teaching and independent work.

In Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, this is equivalent to 3 hours a day, on average, across the school cohort. This means that children in year 2 may expect work set by the school to take more time than children in reception.

In Year 3, 4, 5 and 6, this is equivalent to 4 hours a day.

In addition to engaging with remote teaching and independent tasks each day, it's important to encourage your child to engage in social interaction and age appropriate activities as well as regular exercise.

Accessing remote education

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

- All children's learning, is posted daily onto two interactive platforms:
Early Years (Nursery, Reception and Year 1): tapestryjournal.com
Years 2 to 6: www.showbie.com

All children have been given their own login details.
Teachers will upload pre-recorded lessons, the links to live lessons and other activities.

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:

- Pupils without access to a device at home are invited to attend school – in line with government guidelines
- A small number of individual devices are available for families to loan and these are allocated to pupils in greatest need. Phase Leaders are in regular communication with parents, as are class teachers about level of need.
- We are able to issue a data sim card to support for the duration of the closure/isolation. Please contact the school office admin@meregrn.bham.sch.uk if this would support your child to access our remote learning provision.
- All work packs can be accessed on a number of devices and it is not necessary for these to be printed off. For those that cannot view the on-line work packs, paper packs are prepared for individual collection.
- For those pupils who cannot share their work electronically, copies of completed work can be hand delivered or posted into school for the attention of the class teacher.

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?

- Teachers are in daily contact with all children/parents in their classes to keep in touch and to ensure children are accessing learning.
- All children are expected to engage with the home learning set by school and upload completed work. This will be monitored daily.
- We encourage and promote parents and carers to establish a daily routine with regular sleep patterns, regular breaks, opportunities for age appropriate activities and exercise and to encourage pupils to engage in a daily act of kindness.
- We encourage children in Key Stage 2 to follow a class timetable that plans in breaks and promotes independence.
- Where engagement with remote learning is problematic, a familiar adult will make contact with parents/carers and the child to discuss additional support that might be needed.
- If you or your child are struggling to engage with the home learning, please contact the school office by e-mail (admin@meregrn.bham.sch.uk) or by telephone (0121 3081384) and a member of staff will be in touch.

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

At Mere Green we know that assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Assessment is the means by which we monitor the progress of pupils and evaluate the effectiveness of the quality of learning and teaching. It involves making judgements about a pupil's level of knowledge, understanding and attainment in processes, skills, knowledge and understanding in relation to the Early Learning Goals or the National Curriculum Programmes of Study and then deciding on the most effective teaching strategies to adopt, to formulate the next steps.

During this period of remote learning, your child's teacher will use a variety of methods to assess progress:

- Highly effective verbal feedback will be provided during live learning.
- The chat function will be used during live learning to ask questions and give ALL children an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding.
- Opportunities for self-assessment will be planned into the live-learning sessions.
- Quizzes and retrieval practice activities will be used to help students to identify their own strengths and areas for development.
- Children will be encouraged to share and discuss their work and their confidence level in relation to the learning objective and task during live-learning sessions.
- Children are expected to submit completed work daily. All work submitted by children is marked daily and children are expected to look back and make any changes necessary.

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.

- The Inclusion Lead (Michelle Spires) is working to support families, leaders and teachers to ensure that all remote learning is tailored to the needs of individual children with an identified need.
- The Pastoral team (led by Ranjan Hoath) is working closely with families to ensure that they all receive the tailored support that they need. This includes, weekly phone conversations between key families and the pastoral team and face-to-face zoom calls with small groups to support development of the whole child.
- Phase leaders and class teachers are working collaboratively with families to so that the progress of children from their individual starting points is at least good.
- Where appropriate, meetings have been arranged with the local authority to discuss provision for pupils with EHC plans.

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?

- If a class bubble needs to self-isolate, remote provision will be the same as described above, with some children receiving well-being phone calls from school.
- If an individual child needs to self-isolate, remote provision will be signposted to the Oak Academy, an overview can be found on the school website.
<http://www.meregrn.bham.sch.uk/>
- In addition, children in year 3 to 6 will be able to access some in-class learning activities through the Showbie App on their individual school ipad.