

Remote Education Provision – 2020/2021 (January 2021)

Review date: End of Spring Term 2021

Information for Parents and Carers

This document is intended to provide clarity and transparency for parents and carers about what to expect from our remote education offer in terms of provision, access arrangements and expectations should national or local restrictions require the entire school 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.

Our Ethos regarding Remote Provision

In the event of a closure (bubble or whole school), our aim is to offer remote education to children, including a mixture of live lessons, pre-recorded lessons and a variety of other interactive activities in order to continue the high expectations we have regarding the quality of teaching and learning we offer under 'normal' circumstances.

The Curriculum – What will be taught while children are at home?

What will be provided immediately?

Over the first day (and possibly the second day) of children moving from onsite to remote learning, they will be provided with independent activities to complete. There will be a range of activity types, including videos to watch and questions to answer, all focused on revising recent learning rather than introducing new content. This will allow staff time to prepare for a longer period of remote provision.

These activities will be uploaded to ClassDojo, the online platform we use for children and families to access remote learning (and home learning/holiday learning projects when they are in school). This time will also be spent ensuring relevant families are able to collect devices where necessary.

Wherever possible, children will be provided with a workbook to record any written learning in and pencils/other relevant equipment to support their learning at home. Should there be no opportunity for this to be given to children (e.g. children do not return to school following a holiday period), as much as possible, learning provided for the children will not require additional or specific equipment or printing (i.e. written work/answers can be written on the screen and uploaded). Should any family not have access to paper and/or pencils, they can contact the office staff who will put a pack of appropriate equipment together for the family to collect.

In some cases, staff will provide printed work for children to complete. This may be instead of or in addition to learning provided via ClassDojo. Please refer to sections below.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Following the initial activities provided over the first couple of days, children in every year group will be able to access daily 'live' lessons, taught via Zoom. These lessons will vary in length according to your child's age/year group (see below).

Some children may receive additional live lessons throughout the week, for example for small group interventions, one-to-one reading or additional challenge/support in core subjects following (or prior to) the main lesson.

During live lessons, new learning/skills/information will be taught in smaller chunks using video modelling from the teacher or screen sharing. Following the initial explanation, children will be set tasks to complete, some of which will then be submitted to their classteacher online.

Each day, the teachers will upload the day's lesson timetable and information, explanations, recorded lessons and activities including links to videos/virtual visits and trips, etc. relevant to the curriculum content being taught that day. They will also include the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria for each relevant lesson so children can use this to self-assess their learning. Staff will also include a note of what learning should be uploaded for marking and feedback.

Will my child be taught the same curriculum as they would be in school?

Teachers will continue, as much as possible and appropriate, to follow the curriculum aspects planned for each subject, however, there may need to be some adaptations in some subjects. For example, where a trip to support the children's understanding or application of new learning would be undertaken under normal circumstances, there may be a necessity to substitute this with a virtual trip or video instead or physical education lessons may involve a greater focus on individual health and fitness, rather than team games or specific skill development.

Staff will aim to ensure new learning is combined with regular and appropriate revisiting of previous learning. We appreciate that covering large quantities of new knowledge or skill development can be overwhelming so this must be manageable, especially where children's first language is not English.

What online platform will we be using?

The school will use ClassDojo to post children's work online each day. Teachers will also post a sway link containing all the information, explanations, recorded lessons and links to external sites for the lessons throughout that day for ease of access for children and families, along with the zoom link for live lessons. Links may be for relevant Oak academy lessons, CBBC Bitesize lessons/activities and a range of other sites suitable for the children to visit.

Each child will need to use their allocated login to ClassDojo and can access it via the application or through an online browser. Please contact the office for details or support if you are having trouble accessing ClassDojo at home.

Live lessons for each year group will take place on Zoom. The link for these is shared on ClassDojo each morning. Staff will also allocate Dojo points each day via ClassDojo and any child who receives 50 or more in a week will receive a certificate via private message each Friday.

Staff may share story videos and examples of learning from members of the class on the class story page along with reminders to practice their reading (via Bug Club and other links) and maths (via Mathletics and Maths Whizz). If you require a reminder of log in details for these apps, please contact the teacher via private message.

School information and updates for parents will be shared via School Story (to allow the translation service to be used by families) or by email. These posts may include support information, wellbeing activities and opportunities including training offers that may be of interest or help for children and families.

Parents are encouraged to contact classteachers via the messaging option on ClassDojo if they have questions regarding the learning or supporting their children. Staff will aim to respond as quickly as possible during the school day and within 72 hours.

How long can I expect the learning to take each day?

Children in each year group will receive live lessons, learning tasks and additional activities that should cover close to the normal school day (with time allocated for break and lunch). There will generally be a video of/link to a physical exercise activity or a live zoom lesson with the PE coach each day too.

The daily timetable will be posted on ClassDojo each morning for ease of access.

The expectations and timings for live lessons each day is as follows:

Minimum expectation:

EYFS & KS1 – at least 3 hours learning per day

KS2 – at least 4 hours per day

Provision should include a mixture of live and recorded lessons and a range of other activities/research/visits/visitors/tours/projects). It is expected that learning will be provided to cover the normal school day with the majority of learning to be completed independently by children with support from live teaching, intervention support and explanations provided in recorded lessons and for activities.

The two live lessons for each year group will be timetabled at the same time each day to support families, particularly where there are other siblings who need access to devices.

Year Group	Live lesson 1	Live lesson 2
Reception classes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Year 1	20 minutes	30 minutes
Year 2	30 minutes	30 minutes
Year 3	30 minutes	30 minutes
Year 4	30 minutes	45 minutes
Year 5	30 minutes	1 hour
Throughout the week, live lessons will also include specialist teaching for PE/Music/Spanish, on the same days as the children would have this provision in school.		

Children will receive lessons and activities for English, phonics/spelling/reading, maths and topic subjects/PSHCE including PE/Music/Spanish throughout a week. For children in Reception, lessons will focus on phonics, maths and activities designed to cover all areas of the early years' curriculum.

Generally, children will be given weekly spellings to learn, handwriting/number bonds/tables to practice and reading activities to complete as appropriate to their year group.

What should I do if I don't have a device for my child to use/I have more than one child at home or I don't have broadband access?

We recognise that not all children may have access to suitable online access from home or may need to share a device with siblings or parents who are working from home. To support families with more than one child, we have timetabled the live lessons so every year group's times are different. All other learning can be undertaken at a time that works best for each family.

We have been issued with a small number of devices from the Department for Education (DfE) to loan to families and have also made our school iPads available in the event of the whole school undertaking remote learning. These devices are available in the following circumstances:

- a) For children who have no device at home to use or can only access learning via a parent's mobile phone
- b) For families where there is more than one child learning from home/parents are working from home who will benefit from an additional device

For families who do not have access to broadband or have a PAYG plan, the school has a very limited number of MiFi devices available for loan and can apply for access to the government-funded scheme to increase data provision with certain mobile phone services.

Please contact the school office (office@watlingparkschool.org.uk) or call on 0208 353 4249 for further details regarding the loan of a device or broadband support.

In exceptional circumstances, it may be more appropriate for learning to be provided in a printed format. If agreed, parents will be able to attend the school office each day/week to collect this. There is no need for families to print out the learning - it can be completed via ClassDojo and uploaded directly from there. If you have any difficulties with this, please message the classteacher who can offer support.

Engagement and Feedback

How much learning do you expect my child to do each day and how much do I need to support them?

All children are expected to join the daily zoom lessons and submit the identified pieces of learning stated by teachers in the sway upload each day. These will generally include English, Maths and some other piece of learning linked to phonics or the wider curriculum. These should be uploaded to ClassDojo at an appropriate time for your family.

Reception and KS1 children may need support accessing the live lessons and completing/uploading their work, including logging in and accessing Zoom lessons, however, once they understand to click on the blue zoom link, they should be able to do this independently. Children should then be able to complete the tasks independently. KS2 children should be able to complete all work set independently and access their Zoom lessons without help.

Staff aim to make the pre-recorded and other learning activities as user-friendly as possible with video explanations, etc. Reception children may need further clarification regarding some activities, particularly if they are still learning English. If your child is finding the learning difficult to complete independently, please message the classteacher who can offer further support and suggestions.

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

Teachers continue to have high expectations of learning in the same way they do when the children are at school but the circumstances for remote education are slightly different. We cannot monitor children's engagement and understanding in quite the same way, which is why we expect the children to behave appropriately during live zoom lessons. Teachers post expectations for live zoom lessons on ClassDojo at the start of any period of remote learning and regularly remind children and parents of these.

Reminders of inappropriate behaviour (such as interrupting, calling out, messaging friends) will be given and if this continues, teachers may call the parent to discuss or send a private message asking for this to be discussed with their child. Children may be muted or asked to leave a lesson should their behaviour not improve. This information will be passed to the phase leader or senior leadership team so further follow up can be undertaken.

The majority of learning uploaded will be marked and feedback provided (e.g. thumbs up, comment or feedback that is more detailed) within 72 hours of it being uploaded. More comprehensive feedback on at least one piece of English, Maths and topic learning will be provided each week, including a request for the child to follow up/provide extra information/ review and improve/join the teacher for an additional session to help clarify misconceptions.

Teachers will contact parents via ClassDojo message if the learning submitted causes concerns.

Staff inform the senior leadership team if children do not attend live zoom lessons or are not submitting learning. In this case, the family may receive a call from a senior leader/other member of staff to discuss support that may be helpful and to ensure engagement in learning going forward. We understand that there are many complexities for families during periods of remote learning so we want to ensure you have everything you need to support your child/ren to engage in learning each day.

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

When your child has submitted their learning, the teacher will assess their progress against the learning intentions and success criteria for the lesson, taking into account prior learning and your child's needs. Feedback will be offered by the teacher (also see above) and additional support may be offered via interventions, challenges, additional resources or possibly an extra session/longer session following the next live lesson.

Effective learning and learning behaviours will be highlighted (with a particular focus on effort and progress in new learning). Dojo points are awarded for children who are taking part in learning, answering questions, attempting challenges, supporting peers, thinking creatively and a range of other high quality learning behaviours. Every child who receives 50 or more Dojo points throughout a week will receive a special certificate at the end of the week. High quality learning may also be shared via live sessions, on ClassDojo posts, through show and tell sessions and in other ways relevant to each year group.

Additional Support for Children with Particular needs

How does the school work to support children with SEND, or who have additional needs while they are at home?

Children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) will be offered a place at our onsite provision during whole school closures. If families choose not to take up this provision, then the school will aim to provide appropriate activities to support learning at home. Teachers will liaise with the Inclusion Leader regarding appropriate resources to help parents support their children.

For children who are involved in Speech and Language therapy, Play Therapy or other interventions and nurture groups, relevant staff will aim to provide these sessions remotely at an agreed time with families wherever possible to ensure continuity of provision.

The Inclusion Leader and an identified support staff member will monitor well-being of children during times of remote learning and identify support that could be useful on a case-by-case basis. Any support offered for classes will continue via live sessions wherever possible (e.g. team building or friendship focus sessions).

How will you support my child who is new to the country/school and speaks very little English?

ClassDojo has been selected as the main communication platform for remote education as it provides a translation function for 36 languages.

For children who are very new to the school and country and for whom English is not their first language, parents are encouraged to support their child to complete their learning in their mother tongue wherever possible. They are actively encouraged to take part in the live lessons each day to see their classmates and listen to what is discussed, as this will support them to become familiar with English as quickly as possible. Teachers will provide alternative activities wherever appropriate or may provide an individual learning timetable for them. Parents are encouraged to message the class teacher if they have any questions or concerns. Teachers will liaise closely with the Inclusion Leader to source and provide appropriate lesson links and activities as identified.

What may be different regarding remote education for younger pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage?

As for all other year groups, the Reception teachers will upload the daily timetable for learning, which include two daily zoom lessons. The live zoom lessons are 15 minutes and 30 minutes long and focus on the prime areas of learning. Their timetable has a range of activities and learning opportunities for the children to undertake during the day linked to everyday situations in the home but that weave through the focus areas of phonics/reading and number/counting in a range of creative ways, to support children at home to engage meaningfully with the early years' framework. There will also be videoed or live story times throughout the week from a range of staff. The children may need to undertake an activity prior to the story being read. While 'Special Weeks' will not take place in the same way during remote learning periods, staff will continue to monitor every child's learning against the early years' framework expectations. Parents are encouraged to continue to upload relevant examples of learning at home to Tapestry in the same way they would normally.

Remote Education for Self-Isolating Pupils

If my child is self-isolating while the school is open, how will their education be delivered remotely?

Your child's class staff will contact you following you advising the office that your child is self-isolating.

Staff aim to ensure their curriculum provision is planned so it can be converted to remote learning as seamlessly as possible. Where appropriate, very similar learning to what is being covered by the children in class will be uploaded to your individual ClassDojo account for your child to complete for that day. Once they have completed the learning, they should then upload it on ClassDojo where it is checked and feedback given within 72 hours. This will enable your child maintain access to in-school curriculum provision from home during any period of self-isolation.

Please note - if your child is unwell while self-isolating, there is no expectation for them to complete learning. This is the same for any child who is absent due to illness.

If your child is on holidays/abroad and this is not authorised, this will continue to be recorded as unauthorised absence. No remote learning will be provided in these situations.

Should you have any questions regarding remote learning provision, please do not hesitate to contact the school via office@watlingparkschool.org.uk.