SEMPER FIDELIS

# Remote Education Provision

Information for Parents

January 2021

**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 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 document.

**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?**

All work will be set using the Google Classroom platform. Pupils will be set an assignment for every lesson on their standard school timetable. Pupils should submit each assignment and the teacher will acknowledge and return the work.

**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, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example:

- Science practical will be delivered through video clips.

- Technology will have more focus on design, and practical elements will be demonstrated by video. Your child will be encouraged to engage with the practical element at home, however this is not a requirement.

- In core PE, pupils will be set fitness challenges that can be completed in line with government regulations. There will also be a theory based task set for those pupils who are unable to access practical activities.

**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:

| Key Stage 3 | 3x 90 minute lessons per day (as per pupils standard school timetable). |
|---|---|
| (Years 7-9) | 1x 30 minute reading time. |
| | = 5 hours per day. |
| | **Additionally** |

| | |
|---|---|
| | • Online form time will be conducted twice each week for 20 minutes. |
| Key Stage 4<br><br>(Years 10-11) | 3x 90 minute lessons per day (as per pupils standard school timetable).<br><br>3x 20 minute independent study tasks (one from each lesson).<br><br>1x 30 minute knowledge organiser time.<br><br>= 6 hours per day.<br><br>**Additionally**<br><br>• Online form time will be conducted twice each week for 20 minutes. |
| Key Stage 5<br><br>(Years 12-13) | For each subject a student studies they will receive;<br><br>• 5x 90 minute lessons per fortnight (as per pupils standard school timetable).<br><br>• Each lesson will have an associated 20 minute independent study task.<br><br>Total learning per day is dependent on the number of subjects studied.<br><br>**Additionally**<br><br>• Online form time will be conducted twice each week for 20 minutes. |

**Accessing remote education**

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

All learning will be set through the Google Classroom platform.

Students need to use their school email address; eg:12bloggsj@st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk and password and check they are logged into the correct Gmail account.

Students will need a device such a tablet or laptop to fully ultilise the learning platform.

All links to external websites and platforms used by departments will posted on Google Classroom. If pupils are unable to access these subject specific platforms they need to send a message through Google Classroom or by email to their class teacher.

If students have questions regarding access to the Google platform, queries need to go through the ICT helpdesk tab on the school website.

**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:

> We have a small number of DfE devices and internet dongles that can be loaned to students if they do not have access to a device or the internet. Please contact your child's form tutor by email or by telephone (01253 396286) if your child does not have a device or internet access.

**How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

> All work will be set through Google Classroom.
>
> We take the best from both the synchronous and asynchronous approaches to remote learning, recognising that each has enormous advantages for children learning in different environments. We will take a blended approach towards setting assignments and assignments will include:
>
> - A live or pre-recorded introduction delivered by the teacher.
>
> - A retrieval activity designed to review prior learning.
>
> - Introduction of new information or instruction.
>   - This could be delivered through pre-recorded lessons, such as those produced by Oak National Academy or those available on platforms such as Hegarty Maths.
>   - This could require pupils to read information from an online textbook, PowerPoint, or worksheet provided by the teacher.
>
> - Practice tasks.
>   - Designed to allow children to apply their knowledge and embed it in their long term memory.
>   - This could be carefully selected questions or other learning activities for children to complete.
>
> - Review of learning.

**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?**

All children are expected to engage with remote education daily.

Please inform your child's form tutor if your child is unwell and cannot complete the day's activities so they can let subject teachers know.

Try and keep a normal school day routine. Children should be getting up and dressed ready to start work for online form time at 8.40am.

| Timings | Days with online form time | Other days |
|---|---|---|
| 8.40-9.00am | Online form time twice each week. | Collective worship time |
| 9.15- 10.45am | Period 1 | Period 1 |
| 10.45-11.05am | Break | Break |
| 11.05am-12.35pm | Period 2 | Period 2 |
| 12.35-1.25pm | Lunch | Lunch |
| 1.25-2.50pm | Period 3 | Period 3 |
| 2.50-3.20pm | KS3 - Reading time/KS4 - Knowledge organiser time | KS3 - Reading time/KS4 - Knowledge organiser time |
| After School | KS4/5 - Independent Study Tasks | KS4/5 - Independent Study Tasks |

Set up an area your child is able to work in that is away from distractions. Working at a desk or table is preferable. Also, regularly check they are on task and not getting distracted by gaming or social media.

Encourage your child to ask for help if needed and to use the 'comment' function in Google Classroom to ask their teacher for help.

Engage with your child's form tutor. Form tutors will contact you regularly by telephone. Be honest with us, we may be able to offer support to you and your child.

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

- Your child will be required to 'hand in' a task for each assignment set on Google Classroom. They should aim to do this at the end of each timetabled lesson.

- Teachers will be monitoring completion of work through Google Classroom and contacting form tutors to inform them of non-completion of work.

- Teachers will be online to support learning during lesson time and students are able to contact them through the 'comment' function in Google Classroom

- Teachers will be returning work and acknowledging work completion in a timely manner.

- Form tutors will be contacting parents via email and/or telephone to discuss concerns related to non-completion of work.

- As a parent you also have access to your child's Google Classroom to check work completion.

**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:

- Each piece of work submitted by your child will be acknowledged and returned by the class teacher.
- Feedback on return may be through the use of a marking rubric, private comment, annotations on submitted work, or verbal comment submitted by the teacher.
- Teachers may also choose to give a summary whole class feedback about a piece of work.
- Some lessons your child will receive immediate feedback through auto-marked quizzes.
- Teachers will be regularly looking at work and responding to pupil progress and altering learning pace accordingly.

**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:

The Learning Support department will regularly contact the families of children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Throughout school closure, if it is more appropriate for a child with an EHCP to work at home, they will have a bespoke package of support just as in 'normal times'. For children with EHCPs, the Learning Support team have been shared into Google Classroom so they are able access and support learning. This may include virtual support to help children with EHCPs with their learning using an online platform such as Google Meet. The frequency of virtual support will depend on the individual child's needs and is in collaboration with parents/ carers. For some children with an EHCP, virtual support is not an appropriate method of support though regular email and/ or telephone contact is essential and ongoing.

Along with class teachers and form tutors, the Learning Support team are keen to stay in contact with children who are known to us as they have an identified special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This contact will be via email to children and email and/ or telephone to their parents as needed. If you have any queries relating to your child's additional needs please direct it to Mrs H Stansfield our SENDCo by email hds@st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk or by telephoning the school office on 01253 396286 and requesting a call back from the Learning Support team.

Additional information and support can be accessed via the Blackpool Council website:

- Website  https://www.blackpool.gov.uk
- Blackpool SEND Local Offer page on Facebook.
- Blackpool Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service
- (SENDIASS)  01253 477083 or email sendiass@blackpool.gov.uk

**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 work will be set using the Google Classroom platform. Pupils will be set an assignment for every lesson on their standard school timetable (3x 90 minute lessons). Each assignment will align with the curriculum being delivered to children in school. Assignments will include;

- A retrieval activity designed to review prior learning.

- Introduction of new information or instruction.
    - This could be delivered through pre-recorded lessons, such as those produced by Oak National Academy or those available on platforms such as Hegarty Maths.
    - This could require pupils to read information from an online textbook, PowerPoint, or worksheet provided by the teacher.

- Practice tasks.
    - Designed to allow children to apply their knowledge and embed it in their long term memory.
    - This could be carefully selected questions or other learning activities for children to complete.

- Review of learning.

Pupils should submit each assignment and the teacher will acknowledge and return the work in due course.