



Milldown CE Academy

Remote and Blended Learning – A Guide for Parents

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 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?

Work will be uploaded onto Tapestry and will consist of English and maths. Where possible, the work sent home and lesson videos provided will match the learning happening in the classroom. In instances where this isn't immediately possible (e.g. because the teacher cannot be released from class) then online platforms such as Read Theory, Times Table Rock Stars and Spark will be utilised.

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, in subjects such as science or P.E. where specific equipment is needed, this isn't always possible.*

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 1	Minimum of 3 hours per day. This may be less for EYFS.
Key Stage 2	4 hours per day.

Accessing remote education

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

Remote-education will be primarily accessed through Tapestry. Daily timetables, video links and support will be posted via Tapestry. This is also the platform by which parents can upload their child's work and communicate with staff. As well as learning videos made by the teacher, other reputable online resources such as White Rose Maths and Oak National Academy will be used.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We will always seek to provide access to a digital device however 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:

- *Loaning of laptops or tablets to pupils. Please contact the school office: office@milldown.dsat.org.uk*
 - *Provide sim cards loaded with data. This may be subject to network provider.*
- or*
- *Provide printed learning packs as necessary. It can be arranged to be dropped to the school office or collected by a member of staff.*

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- *Recorded teaching – this will be a mix of lessons recorded by staff and from reputable online providers such as Oak National Academy and White Rose Maths*
- *Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)*
- *Exercise and reading books pupils have at home*
- *Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences, such as BBC Bitesize and Times Table Rock Stars*
- *Live teaching (online lessons). This will most commonly be in the form of lesson starters and used for specific 1:1 or small group feedback and/or support. We recognise the difficulty that live lessons present to families with limited devices and more than one sibling where lesson times clash and parental support therefore becomes difficult to coordinate.*

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?

In this section, please set out briefly:

- *Children are expected to complete all work set each day*
- *Parents will need to make sure that their child understands what to do and has all the necessary resources and a clutter free workspace free of distractions. This is essential for our younger children but also important for children in upper key-stage 2*
- *Parents will help support their child when they are 'stuck' and/or seek support from the school*
- *Parents will help to mark the work (where answers are provided in subjects such as maths)*

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

- *Engagement will be checked daily via Tapestry.*
- *Weekly phone calls (more if needed) will flag parents/children in need of support and strategies to support at home can be shared.*
- *Following this, if there are still concerns then the school's pastoral lead will call to offer support and strategies to support your child at home.*
- *If there is still a concern, the leadership team will discuss with the family on how learning can be achieved at home. This may involve signposting parents to support from external agencies.*

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:

- *Work will be acknowledged in the form of a 'like' and brief, positive comment.*
- *If appropriate, a next step will be given. This may be a written comment, a 'marked-up' version of their work highlighting areas of improvement or areas of success; a video with verbal feedback/explanations; 1:1 live feedback*
- *Feedback will happen regularly (daily unless inappropriate) for English and maths work. Feedback for other lessons will happen weekly.*
- *Answer sheets will be provided for certain subjects/lessons to allow parents and children to self mark and 'fix' (edit) their work.*
- *Self-marked quizzes, e.g. end of week Kahoot! Quiz based on prior learning.*
- *Live lessons will offer immediate feedback.*

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:

- *Close communication with the school's SENDCo.*
- *Where appropriate, daily live lessons and/or communication with SEND pupils.*
- *Work adjusted to meet the needs of the pupil.*
- *Where possible, continuation of interventions such as 'Speech and Language' support.*

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?

During national lockdown, where a child is attending school but then needs to self-isolate, they will be expected to continue with the home-learning as per those already learning remotely at home.

In instances where the whole class is in school and a child has to self-isolate, remote-learning may initially take the form of learning platforms such as Read Theory, Times Table Rock Stars, White Rose Maths and Oak National Academy. A structured timetable with daily lessons will be sent at the earliest opportunity.

What should I do if I have concerns about my child's remote learning provision or how they are managing the work set for them?

In the first instance, contact your child's class teacher and share your worries or concerns. This can be done via email, via Tapestry or via the weekly phone calls.

Following this, the school's pastoral lead will make contact and offer support. This may involve signposting to external agencies or support.

The final stage will be for the senior leadership team to become involved.