



Ashdon Primary School

Remote Education Provision: Information for parents

Introduction

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.

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

The class teachers will send home worksheets and/or instructions via our email system to each family. It is unlikely that the class teacher will be organising online learning sessions in the first 2 days, but where this is the case, parents will be sent a link to access the session/s.

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, if the children were due to study electricity in science, we change the learning to another aspect of science, as we recognise that parents are not likely to have the equipment at home required to learn about the subject effectively.

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

Class 1: 3 hours.

Class 2 & 3: 3 to 5 hours.

This amount of time includes the time spent with the teacher online and the tasks they have set your child outside of the online sessions.

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

We have chosen to use Zoom as our platform for children to access the online sessions with the teacher. We will email all parents with a recurring Zoom link to access all lessons with their child's class teacher. Please note: That each individual class teacher has a unique Zoom link.

The teacher may also choose to provide pre-recorded videos for lesson inputs. Where this is the case, these will be uploaded to a Google Drive folder, whose link will be shared with parents who will require access.

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

Firstly, we have developed a timetable so that our teachers are never online at the same time, so families shouldn't require multiple devices to access our online Zoom sessions.

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. If they are 'disadvantaged' (as defined by the DfE) then we will use the Government scheme to procure Chromebook devices for eligible children.

Where children do not meet the criteria for being 'disadvantaged', yet they are having problems accessing the remote education, then the school will consider, on a case-by-case basis, lending them a school laptop for the duration of the remote learning.

Where 'disadvantaged' families are struggling to get a fast enough broadband connection in their home, then parents can inform the school, who, in turn can work with the DfE and mobile network providers to get a 4G wireless router and/or increase the amount of mobile data available on their monthly mobile plan, without an additional cost to the family.

Some parents may have access to the online element of the learning, but may not have the facilities to print out their child's work at home. If this is the case for your family, you can request that the school prints out any necessary resources and we will leave them for collection in our front entrance lobby.

If for any reason you are unable to submit completed work to your child's teacher when requested via email, then you can drop off the completed work to our school office between 9 am and 3:30 pm.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online Zoom sessions) twice per day.
- Worksheets and/or instructions for tasks, sent via email.
- Recordings of lessons/instructions, illustrating the task/s they need to complete.
- Use of online platforms that the school has purchased for children, such as Mathletics and Bug Club.
- Physical Education will be promoted through the activities provided by the Uttlesford School Sport Partnership.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We would expect that, for the majority of the time, the children attend both online Zoom sessions each day. On occasions where home circumstances make this impossible, then we expect your child to attend one of the Zoom sessions each day.

We ask that parents are always in the same room (not necessarily on camera) with their child whilst they are interacting with the Zoom online sessions. This will help parents make sure that their child is safe and is available if they experience any technical problems.

Parents of younger children, may need to provide a more hands-on supporting role during these sessions, depending on the ability, personal development and needs of their child.

When completing tasks offline, such as worksheets, then you may need to support your child to check their understanding or if they are having difficulties.

Some tasks set by the teacher, may require adult assistance. Where this is the case, the teacher will indicate this in their message outlining the work to parents.

It is equally important to encourage your child to complete some tasks, either in part or in whole, independently – if they were in school, it would be unlikely that they would have an adult sitting with them all of the time.

We recognise that each family has different demands placed on it, whether this be from younger or older siblings, or work demands. We encourage families to find a solution that works for them the best, that allows their child/children to engage with the work and online sessions as much as possible.

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

Firstly, we will be using a daily attendance register, to see which children are regularly attending the online sessions.

The class teachers will use assessment during the online sessions and through submitted work (see below) to judge each child's engagement and progress with their work.

Where concerns arise, either the class teacher, learning mentor (Mrs Allen) or the headteacher will contact the family via a phone call, to see what support we can offer.

If you have concerns about your child's engagement with the remote learning, then please contact the school office, who will arrange a phone call from either the class teacher or the learning mentor.

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

During the online sessions:

- Individual children may be asked to answer a question.
- All children may be asked to hold up answers to questions – e.g. maths questions.
- Individual children may be asked to share the outcomes of the work from a previous task that had been set, e.g. they may have made something or they are asked to read out an extract of their writing.
- Individual children may be asked to explain their understanding of a particular concept or piece of knowledge to the rest of the class.
- Individual children may be asked to show how far they have got during the online lesson itself, if a task was started whilst online together.

Please remember that, the nature of using online video sessions means that only one person can speak at once, otherwise other contributions are lost. This, along with muting/unmuting individuals, limits the kind/amount of interactions possible within a single online session (for instance conversations between pupils are not possible), compared to having the children in school.

Submitting work:

Class teachers will periodically ask to see completed pieces of work they have set across the curriculum areas covered in your child's remote learning.

Requested work can be sent to our admin@ashdon.essex.sch.uk email address – please indicate which teacher it will need to be forwarded to.

Our teaching staff will offer feedback on submitted work, either through:

- Emails sent via the school admin address back to the parents.
- Discussing a child's work during an online Zoom session with the rest of the class (to celebrate the child's achievements).
- A phone call from the class teacher to the family.
- If the child has a parent/carer who is deemed a Critical Worker, so is sometimes attending school, they may receive feedback in person on a day they are in school.

How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support from adults at home to access remote education?

Our SENCO is available to discuss any concerns about your child you may have, due to the remote learning. They will then liaise with the class teacher to suggest strategies to support your child whilst at home. We will also try to set work that is appropriate for their developmental level.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

If the rest of your child's class is in school, then we will send home, via email and/or for collection from the school office, worksheets and instructions for tasks to complete whilst self-isolating.

We will not be offering online Zoom sessions to individuals when they are at home.

We do not expect pupils who are ill, to complete work whilst not at school, unless they have recovered enough and/or their symptoms are minimal.

The class teacher will indicate how/when completed work should be returned from school. (Please note: that if self-isolated due to Covid-19, then any work returned to school will be placed in isolation for a minimum of 48 hours prior to the class teacher looking at it.)

The contents of this information for parents are correct at the time of writing (January 2021), but may be subject to change as our remote provision develops. When changes do occur, we will endeavour to inform our parents and carers and amend this document accordingly.