



Mount Carmel Remote Learning Provision- Frequently Asked Questions- Parents/ Carers

This information is intended to provide clear information to pupils and parents/ carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home. You can gain more detail from viewing our Parent/ Carer-friendly Remote Learning Plan, which is available on the school website, but this information should cover any key questions you may have around what you can expect from school during any remote education provision.

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?

The initial response to any isolation will be to provide children with home learning materials (including opportunities to practise key skills such as spelling/ phonics, handwriting, number facts/ times tables, reading comprehension etc) alongside a stationery pack where this is required. In order to ensure a rapid response, these packs are already prepared and available in every class for short-term use. This measure will afford teachers a short time to prepare their remote learning resources, ensuring these opportunities reflect in-school provision. Resources will be uploaded to Seesaw and families will have packs delivered if they cannot access these resources.

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, we recognise that families may not have the same Music, Art or PE resources and equipment at home, so it would not be fair to expect families to be able to follow an identical curriculum at home. However, we have done our utmost to ensure our curriculum in school and at home is as closely-linked as 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 same amount of time as if they were in school, with a minimum of three hours of learning activities for EYFS and Key Stage One and four hours for Key Stage Two, which is in line with the government expectations. To achieve this, teachers will utilise a variety of resources and will support families in their use of these where necessary.

Accessing remote education

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

Families will remain in contact with their child's class teacher primarily through Seesaw. Within all curriculum areas, teachers will set appropriate work for children to complete following the 'input', which may be a video recording, animated and narrated Powerpoint or Zoom live lessons. White Rose Maths resources will sometimes be used to deliver remote learning opportunities in mathematics as this is matched to the curriculum delivered in school. Other websites and online tools such as spelling shed, and Times Tables Rockstars will also be utilised to support learning at home. The Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize resources and lessons will also be used to supplement resources and teaching where appropriate.

All children from Reception to Year 6 will have a Home Learning Book in which they can complete their work. This can then be photographed and uploaded to Seesaw. Parents/ carers and children will receive reminders of logins for each of our platforms.

Teachers will provide a clear timetable for the day, including set times for Zoom lessons.

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

We are able to provide devices to families who do not have access to a device at home. Parents can contact the office if they feel they need a device. We can also support families with access to mobile data. If your household does not have access to the online learning provision, then paper copies of learning packs will be provided.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Staying in Contact

Your child's class teacher will remain in contact with you and your child primarily through Seesaw. The teacher will set appropriate work for your child, in the different school subjects, and will provide resources and support to help your child to complete their learning activities. Please use Seesaw to communicate with your child's teacher, or please phone school if you are struggling to access Seesaw. Please note that it may sometimes be a different member of staff from within the year group that is setting work and contacting you, but they will be working closely in partnership with your child's class teacher.

Resources

Work will be set through Seesaw. We will provide children and families with reminders of logins for each of our online learning resources ('platforms'). Some resources we will use for home learning include: White Rose Maths; Ed Shed; Times Tables Rockstars; Phonics Play, Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize. All children from Reception to Year 6 will have a Home Learning Book in which they can complete their work. This can then be photographed and uploaded to your child's Seesaw account.

Timetable for Home Learning

Your child's teacher will provide a daily timetable for home learning in order to support you in planning and this will contain the links for the Zoom lessons.

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?

Our remote learning provision has been created in line with the Government guidance. It is the school's responsibility to ensure appropriate work is set for home learning. It is the duty of parents to ensure their child completes their home learning. However, we understand that most parents are not teachers and therefore we will support you as much as we possibly can to ensure both you and your child are able to make the most of their home learning and ensure they do not miss out on their education whilst at home. However, if children themselves are unwell and the parent or carer feels they are therefore not able to participate in remote learning, then they should not be expected to do so until they have recovered. Please just let us know so that we are not expecting work for that day, and so that we can check on their welfare whilst they are unwell.

We recommend that parents approach a day of home learning in the following way:

- Ensure your child has breakfast and is dressed and ready for the day, just like you would if they were attending school.
- Where possible, ensure your child has a quiet place to learn, ideally at a desk or table.
- Make sure they have the resources they need such as pens/ pencils, their home learning book, a ruler, rubber and some coloured pencils. If you do not have access to these at home, please contact your child's class teacher as we can help.
- Your child's teacher will upload a timetable for the day. These feature suggestions for breaks and lunchtimes- try to keep to these times if you can, to help structure the day for both you and your child. Routines and structure are good for our mental wellbeing and help your child feel calm and secure.

If you are struggling to motivate your child to complete their learning, please contact your child's class teacher so we can offer support with this.

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

Families will receive regular contact from school via phone calls and/ or contact in 'Zoom' meetings. Our teaching staff check on learning and engagement throughout the day, every day. If a concern arises, your child's teacher will phone to discuss with you any barriers to learning and to offer support to address these. Our teaching staff may also conduct a home visit. These are intended to support the child and family in terms of welfare and engagement in learning.

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. Each day, teaching staff 'approve' and comment on children's work uploaded to their Seesaw portfolio. Any learning needs can then be addressed in subsequent work, or a child may receive individual feedback and support for a specific area of their learning.

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 either through a differentiated approach. If you are concerned about your child's learning, or their access to the work being set by school, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance, or our SENDCo, Mrs Watson, if you need further 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?

Where possible, your child will be given a home learning pack for short-term use (i.e. the first day of self-isolation). This gives teachers a short time to prepare the remote learning resources for your child to make sure their home learning matches the learning in school. Resources will be uploaded to Seesaw- you can apply for a device if needed, as outlined above. If you do not have internet access, then a paper pack of work can be requested instead.

Using Seesaw, the class teacher will upload activities and worksheets for the day (by 9am or night before to allow parents/ carers to see the learning materials prior to supporting their child). The teacher will decide what materials are most appropriate for the individual child.

The Class teacher will share links to appropriate lessons e.g. powerpoints for lessons or videos from White Rose Maths or the Oak Academy through Seesaw.

Completed work should be photographed and uploaded to Seesaw via the portfolios tool.

Teaching staff can then monitor engagement, review the work completed and any feedback or queries can take place using Seesaw.

School will telephone during the isolation period to check on welfare.

Those not engaging with home learning will receive a phone call from the Class Teacher or Teaching Assistant to discuss the obstacles and the support needed by the family as we must ensure that all children keep up with their learning whilst self-isolating. Please support us with this by ensuring your child accesses their learning and let us know if you, or they, need any support with this.