



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?

It is really important to our teachers that any home learning activities they set are suited to your child's needs and are manageable for you, rather than just a version of what they are teaching that day in school with the expectation that you will somehow manage. This could be particularly challenging if the teacher is introducing a new concept or strategy that is not familiar to your child.

For this reason, we have decided to post Day 1 tasks & suggestions on each class home learning page on the school website (the tab for this appears when you hover over your child's class page tab) that your child can access and that you are all familiar with. These tasks will vary by class/age group but will include things like spelling practice, number bonds and times tables practice, reading, a simple writing task, etc.

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?

- As far as possible, we teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school using the same/similar learning support resources.

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	Approximately 3 hours
Key Stage 2	Approximately 4 hours

Accessing remote education

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

In the event of your child having to switch to home learning, we will expect them to access their class home learning page on the school website each day to look at the introduction to their learning for that day.

The Home Learning pages can be found under the class pages tab by hovering over your child's class page header and then clicking on the home learning tab.

In that introduction, your child will be directed to use the Purple Mash Home Learning platform to access their home learning tasks. Please be aware that this does **not** mean they will only be using Purple Mash resources. **Purple Mash provide an online platform that we can use to share a wide variety of learning resources**, including teacher directions for practical activities, printable worksheets, videos, and links to lessons from other sites such as Oak Academy, White Rose Maths, and so on. We have chosen to use the Purple Mash learning platform for this because the children are familiar with it and they all already have easy to use logins.

As well as sharing learning resources, this platform allows us to track which children are completing their tasks (they will **all** be expected to complete their home learning activities), to mark their work online and to give marking and learning feedback. You can even submit photographs of your child's writing or things they have done/made at home directly to their teacher through the platform.

Within Purple Mash, there is a **parent portal** that you can sign in to. While this is optional, it will enable you to see what work your child has completed and the teacher response. Your 'parent code' for the portal can be found on your child's Purple Mash login card. To watch a short video explaining what the parent portal has to offer, please click on this link <https://youtu.be/ZOiu1dhTj5c>

We have set up a page on the website with guidance resources for parents from Purple Mash and Microsoft Teams. The page is called Home Learning Platforms Parent Support and can be found under the Information and News page tab by hovering over the Services & Support Information tab, or by clicking on this link <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/home-learning-platforms-parent-support.html>

The guidance from the Purple Mash team is very clear and easy to follow.

As well as the link above, we have placed a link to this support page on your child's class home learning page.

You can also continue to use the class email address to communicate with staff about your child's learning at home and any queries you may have about how best to support them.

You can find further advice, guidance and top tips for accessing home learning on the school website at <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/home-learning-platforms-parent-support.html>

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 will issue or lend laptops to pupils where this is required to enable access to learning. If we have not yet contacted you regarding this but you feel you need our support in this area, please contact the school office to let us know or to ask for further information.
- Similarly, if you are unable to secure internet access, we may be able to help. Please contact the school office.
- Where internet access continues to be an issue or if, as a parent/carer, you feel unable to use online technology to support your child's learning, we can provide paper-based resource packs for you. Once completed, the work can then be returned to school for teachers to mark and provide feedback. If you feel that this would be the most supportive approach for you, please call the office and ask to speak with your child's teacher.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- daily videos/communications from your child's teacher to introduce the days learning.
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets) where online access is an issue.
- reading books pupils have at home
- all pupils have been provided with an age-appropriate home learning resource pack including whiteboards and pens, exercise books, pencils, maths resources such as hundred squares, number lines, counting apparatus and so on. The planned activities set by teachers reflect the content of these.
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- long-term project work, art or research/investigative activities linked with our Cornerstones topic.
- One – to-one online pupil/teacher conferences/lessons using Teams may be offered **where school has assessed** that this would be beneficial for the child.

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?

- We do expect all pupils to engage with the remote education provided by the school and have provided advice for parents and carers as to how you might approach home learning, provide supportive routines, etc on the school website <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/services-and-support-information.html>

We fully appreciate that circumstances will vary between families but hope the advice we share on the website is helpful. If you feel you need further support or help with organising home learning, please contact your child's class teacher. They will be happy to talk through any issues and offer further advice or reassurance.

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

- Teachers monitor pupil engagement with the learning set by school on a daily basis, through the Purple Mash Learning platform and communications with parents.
- Where it becomes clear that there is a significant gap in engagement with learning/a pattern in lack of engagement, the class teacher will contact the family by telephone or email to check that all is well and to discuss any support needs.

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

As explained in the previous section, we are able to track which children are engaging in their learning through the Purple Mash platform but, even more importantly, this is a route through which your child can submit their work so the teacher can check it and give them feedback to move their learning on where this is needed.

If you/your child can get into the habit of submitting their work daily or at least every other day, rather than at the end of the week, this will enable teachers to correct any misunderstandings quickly and so support your child to move forward in their learning. All of our teaching staff have time in their day when they focus on giving learning support to children who are learning at home, but they can only do this effectively if you share your child's work with them and if you get in touch to ask for support when you need it.

Some parents have been in touch to ask if they need to submit every piece of work that their child does, including photographs of practical activities. This is what our teachers would like to see:

- Acorn & Beech: The *ideal* would be to submit one piece of Maths, English & topic-related work **each day** through Purple Mash (when appropriate as there are some 'talk tasks'). As a minimum **across the week** though, we would like two examples of written work (either topic-related or English BUT NOT spelling practice lists), two examples of Maths and one topic-related piece (photo, etc).
- KS2: One maths and literacy task for each day (submitted daily, if possible) which could be in the form of a photograph or scanned written work. We are also happy to receive any topic or afternoon activities/photos.

If you have trouble accessing learning or submitting completed work or photos, please just let us know and we will be able to help, either by talking you through it or by directing you to the guidance on the school website, whichever works best for you. We entirely understand that some of you will be more confident with new technology and systems than others. We are here to help you.

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:

By providing additional support and guidance to families where needed, including alternative arrangements for the child.

This may include a personalised program of work and/or be in the form of one-to-one lessons/learning support sessions via Teams where school have identified that this would be beneficial.

In some cases, children will be invited into school for on-site learning if they meet our criteria for being 'vulnerable' learners.

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?

There may be circumstances where an individual pupil or family need to self-isolate/quarantine due to Covid 19 guidelines, including where there is a delay in being able to access a test/receive results. During this time, as long as the pupil is not unwell, the class teacher will provide home learning activities for that pupil which link as closely as possible to the learning content of their peers at school. Typically, these activities will be shared via email or in the form of a paper-based learning pack if these seems more suitable to the families circumstances. In the very first instance though, the parent will be directed to the Day 1 learning activities on the Class Page on the school website so that the teacher has time to ensure that the home learning resources provided for the child are appropriately matched to that child's learning needs.

Reviewed December 2021