

Thornton Primary School's 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?

If the Government or Local Authority have provided schools with information in advance regarding wider school closures due to national or local restrictions, Thornton Primary School will be in the position to offer full remote learning as has been set up and outlined below from the day after the lockdown starts. This is because we are now fully aware as to which children are those of Critical Workers, those that are vulnerable, therefore which children will be attending the setting. As such, we could make the transition from in-school to remote learning quite seamlessly.

However, if the Government or Local Authority do not provide such advance notice, the school would close to pupils for one day in order for staff to make necessary arrangements to enable remote learning to take place successfully.

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?

Please see below some statements that may be helpful. In this section, please delete all statements that do not apply, and add details if appropriate:

- 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, PSHE sessions will focus on pupil wellbeing, PE sessions will be taken from the Oak Academy.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

Key Stage 2	<p>We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:</p> <p>An average of 4 hours per day: Minimum of 3 hours on English and Maths per day.</p>
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Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

What staff at school will provide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each morning, children in different year groups will have a staggered live Google Classroom Meet with their Teacher and Teaching Assistant. These can begin at 9am, 9.20am, 9.40am or 10am depending on the daily check in timetable for each year group (this can be found at the top of each year group's remote learning page on the school website, under the 'children' tab. This session will involve a registration session and an introduction to the day's learning activities, as well as allow the children to interact with their peers.• Each afternoon, there will be another live Google Classroom Meet to review the learning and provide feedback, as well as allow the children to interact with their peers.• Each week, staff will carry out a 'Safe & Well' check to speak with you and your child. <p><i>If your child is accessing the twice daily Google Classroom Meets, staff will use this as their opportunity to see that your child is safe and well. Therefore, they may not call you on the telephone - THIS IS OUR PREFERRED OPTION.</i></p> <p><i>If your child is not accessing the twice daily Google Classroom Meets, staff will contact you and your child via telephone.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Google Classroom Meets require a Google username (email) and password, as well as a 'Meet Link' which is found in on their Class Stream in their Class Room.• The provision from the teaching staff in terms of teaching and learning could be one of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Staff produce recorded lessons or teaching 'snippets' on Google Classroom.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Links to recorded lessons provided by reputable companies (like Oak Academy). - Signposted to alternative provision on websites (MyMaths, Reading Plus, Times Table Rock Stars, Purple Mash). - When sessions are not 'live', access to learning will be indicated on Google Classroom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each day, learning will consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - English - Maths - Reading/Phonics/Spelling - Wider curriculum - including Science, History, Geography, RE, PE, Music, Art, D&T, Computing • When you 'hand-in' work on Google Classroom staff will respond daily to at least one piece of work. Staff may also set individual challenges to pupils depending on individual need. • The SEND Team will oversee the provision of personalised learning resources. • Paper packs of the work that we are asking children to complete on a weekly basis are provided and can be collected from school from boxes outside the main Reception. • We endeavour to ensure that the work provided for remote learning matches that being delivered to those children remaining in school.
<p>How you can show us what you have completed at home?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work can be 'handed-in' on Google Classroom or emailed directly to the class teacher, Sports Coach or SENDCO using the email addresses provided. • During Google Classroom Meet sessions, children may be asked to show work that they have been completing so that other children in the class can see it.

Accessing remote education

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

Thornton Primary School is using Google Classroom to signpost children to learning activities, share teaching videos and provide wellbeing support.

Children will also be directed to other quality learning platform such as MyMaths, Reading Plus, Times Table Rock Stars and Purple Mash.

A limited number of DfE loaned laptops have been provided to children as requested by parents and carers. Requests for support can be emailed to enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk

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:

- A limited number of DfE loaned laptops are available for children to use to support their online remote learning.
- Parents and carers can submit a request for one by emailing the school using enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk and they will be added to the waiting list.
- School can signpost parents to support with devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles) – please telephone the school for more information 0121 327 0824.
- Paper packs are available for all pupils who do not have online access – these can be collected from year group boxes outside the main Reception.
- Pupils can submit work to their teachers online using Google Classroom (instructions about how to do this are available on the school website under the 'children' tab on the 'How to use Google Classroom' page, or, if they do not have online access, pupils can email photographs of their work to the relevant email address for feedback:

y3remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk

y4remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk

y5remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk

y6remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching 'snippets' (online mini-lessons).
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers).
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. copies of slides and worksheets).
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences (MyMaths, Reading Plus, Times Table Rock Stars and Purple Mash).
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities in the form of the half-termly Creative Homework set for each year group and directly relating to the half-term's topic.

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 pupils are expected to engage with remote learning daily during term time.
- Ideally, pupils will engage online, twice-daily, with Google Classroom. This will support engagement with their peers and staff, as well as provide an opportunity to check understanding of learning. We understand this may not be possible for all pupils as family circumstances will be different for everyone.
- All pupils are expected to share their learning with their teacher so that they can receive some feedback each day.
- Parents and carers are expected to set routines to support your child's education – making sure children are ready to learn for the start of the first Google Classroom Meet each day.

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

- Teachers and Teaching Assistants will check pupils' engagement with remote education daily by looking at the Google Classroom register and the 'handed-in' work. They will also respond to work emailed to them and provide feedback.
- Where school is concerned a pupil is not fully engaging with remote learning, emails or telephone calls will be made home to parents and carers to discuss actions to be taken.

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 is to use a mixture of these forms of assessment as appropriate for different subjects so that each child will receive some form of feedback daily. Pupils may also receive verbal feedback during Google Classroom Meets.

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 SEND Team will work with families to deliver personalised remote education for pupils with SEND. This may be individual paper learning packs, or individual work uploaded onto Google Classroom, or support delivered remotely by external agencies (previously agreed with parents/carers and the SENDCO).
- Learning tasks provided by school will have elements of differentiation included so that pupils can choose the level of work they feel has the best level of challenge for them.
- Teachers or Teaching Assistants in each class will support identified pupils with Reading and Mathematics on a daily basis.
- 1:1 support is available from teaching staff – parents/carers can contact the class teacher make personal arrangements.

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?

We will ensure every effort is made by school to ensure individual pupils self-isolating are taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects, including providing feedback.

What learning will look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your child will be provided with a weekly isolation pack, which your child will either take home with them if they are in school, or can be collected by you or will be delivered by a member of staff within 2 days of your child starting their self-isolation period. <p>The pack contains a pencil and an exercise book for them to be able to complete any work set. It will comprise daily</p>
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	<p>learning tasks covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - English - Maths - Reading/Phonics/Spelling - Wider curriculum - including Science, History, Geography, RE, PE, Music, Art, D&T, Computing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will be working in school and will therefore not be able to deliver live learning to your child – it will help your child if parents/carers or older siblings are able work with your child and support them to complete the learning tasks. • Email support will be available from teaching staff at school. • At the end of the self-isolation period, your child should return their isolation pack to their class teacher who will be able to see what work has been completed at home.
What staff at school will provide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each week, your child's teacher or Teaching Assistant will carry out a 'Safe & Well' call to speak with you and your child. • If necessary, your child's teacher or Teaching Assistant may think that it's easier to speak with you to discuss your child's work via telephone as well.
How you can show us what you have completed at home?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any work completed should be brought back to school when your child returns from self-isolation or it can be emailed to your child's class teacher. • Alternatively, your child can 'hand-in' their learning on Google Classroom so that the teacher and TA can provide feedback. We can also use this information as evidence towards your child's achievements when assessing their ability in school.