



Orchard Primary School

Information About Remote Education

January 2021

Remote education provision at Orchard: information for parents

This information is to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if 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 document.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

The provision of home learning will take place up to 24 hours after a closure is announced. This is to give staff time to prepare online resources. If children have been in school when the closure was announced, staff will ensure that they have sufficient reading material for their period of time at home.

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

- All work will be set on Google Classroom (to which all pupils have access) with paper versions available for pupils upon request.
- Teachers will touch base with all of the children in their classes to make sure that they can access Google Classroom – this is via a Google Meet Call.
- Where children do not make contact through Google Classroom or are present on the Google Meet Call – Teachers will contact the children's parents via a phone call.

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?

- Online teaching will follow the curriculum that would otherwise have been taught in school.
- A Maths, English and Wider curriculum lesson will be delivered each day. At the teacher's discretion, some of the lesson introductions may be 'live' and some may be recorded to help the children understand the main focus of the lesson.
- Phonics teaching in EYFS and KS1 will be carried out as 'live' lessons – where possible or supported by videos from Read Write Inc.
- Remote learning cannot replace face to face teaching but our staff will work to replicate this.

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:

EYFS (Nursery and Reception)	3 hours
KS1 (Years 1 and 2)	3.5 hours
KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)	4 hours

Accessing remote education

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

- All children at Orchard have a Google account which was set up in September 2020.
- This will allow all children to access activities set on Google Classroom, which will be in the form of a Google Document or as an online quiz (using Google Forms). The children have had lessons in class on the use of Google Classroom and had the opportunity to submit homework.
- 'Live learning' will be provided as a Google Meet, another feature of the Google account package. The class teacher will inform the children when the Google Meet will take place each day. The link to the meet is posted on the Google Classroom banner. Children will need to wait to be admitted by the teacher.
- All work set, and any resource links to follow, will be found on the classroom page of Google Classroom.
- Children returning work online can use the 'turn in' button on the top right corner of their Google Classroom screen.

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 provide, where possible, a Chromebook device from our IT stock, to support families who do not have a reliable device. Please contact the school office (admin@orchard.bexley.sch.uk or call 02083004878) should you require such a device.
- Any loaned device needs to be signed for and used only for work set by the school. At the end of the loan period, it should be returned as soon as possible to the school. Regrettably, any damage or loss will have to be charged for.
- The school has a stock of data cards from Vodaphone which can be inserted into a mobile phone to convert it to a wi-fi hotspot, which will support families without reliable wi-fi connections.

- These cards can also be used with a tablet or laptop with a suitable port.
- For children unable to reliably access materials online, paper packs will be prepared in school and will be available for a socially distanced collection from the office.
- Completed work can be returned to school or photographed and returned via Google Classroom or emailed for the Class Teachers attention via the admin email address
- Work may also be photographed and submitted by the Class Dojo app if necessary.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- A weekly class timetable will be posted on each class page so parents and children know what is happening that week. A daily Google meet will also take place as a way to keep in touch and discuss any questions children may have.
- Some 'Live learning' in which teachers will teach as they do in class with questions, reading aloud and modelling of writing and maths. They will also use the flipcharts and slides that are used in class and can be shown on the children's screens.
- Some online recorded learning may be used. The links to these lessons will be provided daily or weekly by the class teachers.
- Printed packs will be made available to those families who have indicated that the opportunities for online access at home are limited.
- Accelerated Reader quizzes will be available to compete online at home.

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 children are expected to engage in the learning set by the school during the period of remote learning, whether they are engaging online or on paper.
- All work should be completed to the expectations that are set in the classroom.
- Teachers will give daily feedback to children in relation to the work that they submit. This may not always be in a written form.
- Any children that do not engage with remote learning, may be referred to Educational Welfare Services.

The ways in which parents and carers can best support remote learning include:

- Set a daily routine which should include work times and break times.
- Listen to the online lesson input from the teachers to support your child when working independently.
- Check your child's work before submission and ensure it represents their best efforts.
- Check that online learning time is being used for learning and not for gaming or chat.

- Advise staff at Orchard Primary School as soon as possible if there is resistance to completing the work set so that support can be given. We know that home learning presents a challenge for families.

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

- We will keep a daily register of which children engage with the work that has been set.
- Work turned in on Google Classroom is automatically recorded, so teachers have a record of the work completed and when it was submitted.
- Written work returned to the school will also form a part of the record of completed online work.
- If your child is not engaging with the work online, then contact will be made by the Class Teacher, in the first instance. We will work in partnership with families to ensure our children are engaging with home 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. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Google Classroom allows teachers to grade the work submitted and to add a brief comment. When work is 'Returned' to children this may be because it is complete or it may require some correction or improvement.
- Daily Google Meet sessions will address general concerns raised about the learning, much as we would in class.
- Feedback will be given on a daily basis.
- Children working on the paper packs of work will be contacted at least once a week by phone, in addition to feedback on written work that may be returned.

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:

- Google Classroom enables the school to set individual and differentiated work to match your child's abilities and needs. Nobody else in the class will know this separate work has been set.
- Regular contact from the SENCo for support with home learning. The SENCo will also liaise with the Class Teacher to make sure support is appropriate to the needs of specific pupil.

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?

- The class teacher will set the same work on Google Classroom to complete the work that their peers are completing in class.
- Feedback will be provided by the teacher in a reasonable timeframe.