

Lessness Heath Primary School



Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

January 2021

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 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 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?

Lessness Heath uses the Class Dojo platform to set all remote learning. For the first day or two this learning may be in the form of PowerPoints rather than recorded videos. Work will reflect the content that would normally be studied in class.

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 will teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate with any necessary adaptations. We will use the content provided on the White Rose website where this matches closely with our maths curriculum. We will also record short videos for pupils to watch to support their learning. We have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects to suit the nature of remote learning. For example, in subjects which require specific equipment such as Art, Design Technology, PE and Music we may adapt planning to take this into account

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:

We will provide children with 3 hours per day for core subjects: Reading, writing and mathematics. This will be broken down into different activities. We will also provide learning of at least an hour a day in Science and Foundation subjects throughout the week.

For our youngest children in Nursery and Reception we will provide parents with suggested short activities. This learning will take 3 hours to complete, but can be delivered across a whole day – with plenty of time in between for free-play and exploration.

For all ages we will also provide weekly Zoom meetings to support your child's mental health and wellbeing. There is a code of contact for these live meetings, which all staff, pupils and parents need to adhere to.

Accessing remote education

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

All online learning will be accessed through the Class Dojo platform.

At Lessness Heath we also have links to a number of additional online resources such as Oxford Reading Owls and Times Tables Rock Stars that we will continue to ask children to use.

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 have chosen Class Dojo as it is easily accessed from a range of devices.

In the first instance we will support you to access Class Dojo from the device you have access to.

Lessness Heath will loan iPads and/or Wi-Fi routers to vulnerable families where they are unable to access remote learning. Parent/carers will need to contact the school office via the admin email – admin@lessnessheath.bexley.sch.uk - explaining the need and what is required to support. The loan will be valid for the duration of school closure. Parent/carers will need to complete and sign a legally binding agreement before the device is released into their care. Devices will need to be collected from school.

In the event of the school not having enough iPads/routers to loan, or if home circumstances are not effective for home education, either a paper pack of work will be made available to collect from school or a place in school will be offered for the child for the duration of school closure.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

We use a combination of approaches to teach pupils remotely:

- Recorded lessons delivered by the class teacher
- Recorded lessons delivered by external sources, for example White Rose hub and Oak National Academy
- Reading books and text books pupils have at home
- Access to online resources the school has subscribed to, for example Times Tables Rock Stars and Oxford Reading Owls
- Long-term project work and/or internet research activities (as per the schools full opening guidance, schools are expected to avoid an over-reliance on these approaches)

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 understand that parents are busy people and remote education can be challenging, especially if parents are also trying to work from home at the same time or have other caring responsibilities.

We ask that parents help children by doing the following:

- Set a routine for school days. Ensure your child is ready to learn from 9.00 am onwards – it may help for them to put on their school uniform 'ready to learn'.
- Provide a safe place for your child to complete their learning, at a table, ideally where they can concentrate without interruption.
- Ask your child how they are getting on with their learning and let us know if they are finding it difficult or need more support
- Ensure younger children are supervised and supported with completing shorter activities and give them free-play breaks in between completing their school activities.
- Hear your child read or read to them whenever you can

Please let the school know as soon as possible if your child is unwell or is unable to complete the learning.

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

Class teachers at Lessness Heath will check on the children in their class throughout each day to ensure that work is being carried out. They will provide daily feedback for work which is completed and submitted to the child's Class Dojo page.

If children are not submitting their work, they will be called by school and offered support to overcome any issues.

It is important to state that school and home work together in partnership so that the children continue to make progress in their learning.

Where there are ongoing concerns about work not being completed the school Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) will be informed as this will become an attendance issue.

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:

It is important that children are given feedback on their learning.

Each class teacher will be responsible for giving feedback on completed work for their class. This includes children who are attending school.

Children will be given daily feedback on their learning.

Comments should guide the children so that they can make any corrections, for example add in commas, use a dictionary to check spellings in your first paragraph.

Some work set may receive a simple recognition of completion whereas others may have more in-depth comments and a dialogue set up between teacher and pupil to aid assessment.

We will continue to provide 'virtual parents' consultations' on a termly basis. You will receive an update on your child's progress and information about how you can support them moving forward.

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:

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 these pupils in the following ways:

- In the first instance, children at Lessness Heath that have specific needs will be supported via the class teacher and the knowledge and understanding they have related to the capabilities of the individual. Work set will be differentiated and be able to be accessed by all children.
- Further to this, families in need will be contacted by the school SENCO Mrs Freeman to understand each individual case and any need that arises. Mrs Freeman will then work with the class teacher and supporting adult, where required, to ensure that all that needs to be done to support is carried out.
- The school inclusion team will contact all families to support with their home learning and also to check on the pupil's emotional wellbeing.

If parents have specific questions for Mrs Freeman please email the school admin team admin@lessnessheath.bexley.sch.uk and Mrs Freeman will get in contact with you.

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?

As the blocks of work that are set up for each class are in the event of a whole school closure or that of a whole 'bubble', where an individual child is self-isolating, separate work will be set.

Parent/carers need to inform the school as soon as they can and teachers will set some work related to what is being taught in school (as in if working on rounding numbers, similar tasks would be set). We may need to rely more heavily on pre-prepared resources from external sources such as Oak National Academy as the teacher will have less time to prepare additional online material. Due to the class teacher still delivering lessons to the remainder of the class, any marking of the work would be very brief and there would be minimal direct contact.

Finally, and most importantly we would like to remind all parents and carers that we are here to Safeguard all children. On our school website we have information about how to keep your child safe online, as well as other information to support families with their mental health and wellbeing.

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child, please contact the school directly on 01322 433290 and ask to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead on duty. If you cannot get through on the telephone please call Bexley Children's Services on 0203 045 5440, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, or 0208 303 7777/0208 303 7171 out of hours (5pm to 9am Monday to Friday, 24 hour cover at weekends).

For further information about our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, please see the school website.

Thank you