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## **Remote Education during the National Lockdown**

### **January 2021**

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils, parents, carers and guardians 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?**

- The school will continue to use the Class Dojo page to upload activities and videos of lessons made by our class teachers.
- We may direct you to other web links or sites which are similar to platforms which the children use in school or those which were used during the previous lockdown e.g. Bee Active, Time Table Rock Stars and Oak Academy
- We may direct you to links to physical and/or creative activities as well
- For those families currently unable to access Class Dojo, work packs will be provided upon request.

#### **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?**

- Yes, the teachers are continuing to deliver lessons from their planning schedule as normal.
- The teacher videos, which will be uploaded to the Class Dojo page are in line with the lessons taught to the Critical Worker and Vulnerable family children, who are still attending school.
- The class teacher will plan into their lessons key questions and tasks to support the children and parents/carers working remotely.
- For families who have requested work packs, the work will reflect the work set in class and a printed copy of the flipchart will be provided.



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### **Remote teaching and study time each day**

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

The lessons provided remotely and as a paper work pack will broadly reflect the timings of usual school day lessons.

- All children will be provided with English, Maths, SPAG), , RE, RSE History, Geography PE, Art, French, Science, Music and Phonics (EYFS and KS1 only).
- The children should be spending a minimum of 3 hours of remote learning if they are in KS1.
- For children in KS2, the expectation is a minimum of 4 hours of remote learning.
- Please refer to the PDF uploaded daily, which provides a schedule for the day and suggested timings for each lesson.

### **Accessing remote education**

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

The school will continue to use the Class Dojo page to upload activities and videos of lessons. Some resources may be provided on the school website page but this will be rare for most classes.

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

- The school has a limited number of free top-up, data only SIM cards that provide 90 days free data which are available on request. Contact [office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk](mailto:office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk) or telephone 01782 619685
- Work can be scanned or photographed and uploaded to your child/ren's portfolio via Class Dojo
- Instructions have been shared on the Class Dojo page and the school Facebook page of how gaming devices such as an X-Box or PlayStation, can be used as laptops. The school has spare keyboards to support. Should a family have no access to the internet then the school will provide paper work packs. Please contact [office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk](mailto:office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk) or telephone 01782 619685
- Work packs that align with the teaching videos will be delivered with food parcels on Thursday or Friday. Those not in receipt of contact can collect from the school office.



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**If a parent requests a laptop from the school to support their child with remote learning, how will the device be issued?**

- Due to the limited number of laptops, they will be issued based on the following priority criteria; children classed as Pupil Premium, in receipt of free school meals (FSM), please note this not necessarily the KS1 Universal FSM, which is offered to all KS1 children.
- Children who are classed as vulnerable and have a social worker assigned to their family.
- Families who have multiple siblings within the same house, especially those who have older siblings in secondary school, who are in key year groups and are accessing Live Learning.
- If a family is in need of a device and they meet the criteria above then to request a device, they can either contact their class teacher through Class Dojo or email the school office at [office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk](mailto:office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk) or telephone 01782 619685. If the school agrees that a family is eligible to loan a laptop then they will be asked to complete a Parent/Carer Laptop Loan Agreement.

**How will the school issue or lend a laptop that enables laptop connection (eg. routers or dongles) and where can parents or carers find more information?**

Laptops have built in solution for users.

**How will I be able to access any printed material needed?**

Please contact your child's class teacher on the Class Dojo page and ask for copies of the materials which you need. Copies will be printed off for you and either delivered to you on a Thursday or Friday if you are in receipt of a food parcel or they will be left for you in the school office for you to collect.

**How will my child submit work to their class teacher if they do not have online access?**

If you have access to a mobile phone then please take pictures of your child's work and upload them onto the Class Dojo page using your mobile phone. Free data SIM cards are available on request.

If you do not have access to a phone then please return the completed work to the school or if you are in receipt of a food parcel then please return to our Family Support Worker when she delivers your food parcel.



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**How will my child be taught remotely?**

- For EYFS and KS1 children, the class teachers will provide daily videos of Phonics, English and Maths lessons, the Monday whole school assembly and the Merit Assembly. Other lessons such as music, physical activities and art may also be available for the children to engage in.
- For children in KS2, the children will be provided with daily English and Maths lessons (including starter activities), the Monday whole school assembly and Merit Assembly. Other lessons such as music, physical activities and art may also be available for the children to engage in.
- These teacher input videos will reflect the teaching taking place in school for the Critical Worker and Vulnerable family children.

**What are the expectations for my child to engage and how will I support his at home?**

- It is important that we have a good idea about how well your child is accessing and understanding the remote learning which we are providing. The class teachers have therefore set tasks/questions for your child to complete and answer; this is to support and guide parents too. We ask that the completed tasks are uploaded onto the Class Dojo page so that we can provide your child with feedback.
- If you cannot upload a picture of your child's completed tasks, as you have requested work packs, then please return all works packs completed before the following work pack is issued by your class teacher. Your class teacher will let you know when the packs are to be completed by.
- We expect that children 'turn up' for remote learning, every day, as they would for school, unless they are unwell. Our provision is designed in a way that will enable children to access learning throughout the day, scheduled to fit in with parents' own work demands. Recorded videos can be accessed as often as necessary and at the most convenient time for families.
- We appreciate that the younger the child, the more support may be needed from either an older sibling or a parent. Ensuring you have a timetabled plan that has been shared with your child with identified 'play' or 'rest' opportunities in place, to support with parents' own commitments, is essential.
- Setting routines to support your child's education is essential: having a regular start time, lunch, play and work times, that fit in with your family's needs, is the key to survival. Involving your child/ren in organising the timetable is important: they will appreciate being included in the decision making and will be more likely to engage and commit to them.
- We know that some days during a lockdown can be difficult and it's ok to take a break from the routine to meet the well-being needs of your child/ren. Asking for support from school, using Class Dojo, is essential and we will work with to help you through a difficult patch.



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### **Are there any expectations of how I can best support my child's remote learning?**

Children learn best when there is a clear structure to the day. Try to mirror the child's usual day if you are able to by beginning the school day at 9:00am and completing the English, Maths, SPAG (and phonics). Ensure that you and your child have regular 10 minute breaks in between lessons. Please refer to the PDF file uploaded to Class Dojo each day, which will inform you of the structure of the day and suggested timings for each lesson.

Children learn best if they have a designated area in the home to work, which is quiet and away from distractions such as the television.

Please do not become stressed with your child if they are disengaged, instead use encouragement and praise, recalling past successes and by providing incentives such as, "If you complete this now at 2pm we can..."

We appreciate that parents who are working from home may not be able to stick to a structure or/ and may feel deflated that they are not providing the support to their child due to the demands of their own work. These are indeed challenging times. We thank you for all that you are doing and we ask that you have confidence in what you are able to do. If you do need support, then please contact the school.

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

Your child's class teacher will check Dojo daily for engagement and provide guidance or feedback and respond to messages.

If the class teacher has any concerns about your child's engagement then they will contact you either via the Class Dojo messenger or they will call you at home. If a child's are not engaging then the class teacher will phone home to discuss the situation with the family. Support and guidance will be offered and we will endeavour to resolve any issues raised.

We will treat complete non engagement as a safeguarding concern and will record this using our online safeguarding system. This may result in action from other agencies depending on the level of concern raised by staff. If we have raised the concern because we cannot contact parents, carers or guardians then a letter will be sent directly to the home address to inform you of our actions. Education is a basic need and entitlement through law for every child and this need must be met. Please read our Safeguarding policies on our website for more information about our procedures and practice in school:

<https://www.stmarycatholicprimaryschool.co.uk>



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#### *compassion and love* **How will the school assess my child's work and progress?**

Class teachers will assess your child's work by viewing what has been submitted by you through the Class Dojo. The teacher will feedback to you and/or your child on the Class Dojo page. Feedback will vary depending on the task. Feedback may be:

- whole class feedback in the form of short additional lessons to address most common errors or misconceptions, taken from conversations during phone calls or messages and work seen on Class Dojo.
- whole class feedback in the form of: notes to children posted on the portfolio page, with examples to support understanding; questions to further develop understanding; practice tasks to refine a skill or increase fluency
- individual comments to children based on work seen in the portfolios
- praise and encouragement to keep going
- how often feedback will happen depends on the type and also sequence of learning. For example, encouragement and praise would be every day, but whole class feedback may be after a few lessons or just one, depending on the task.

#### **Additional support for pupils with particular needs**

#### **How will the school work with parents of children who have an EHCP?**

School places are available for all children with an EHCP. However, should a parent decide to keep their child at home and instead remote learn, the school will support the parents' decision to do so. We acknowledge that remote learning for some children with an EHCP may be challenging. As such the following measures are in place:

- Our SENDCO will make weekly contact with such families or more frequently if needed to devise a specific support plan for the family.
- All work packs and teaching videos provided will be of an appropriate level.
- EAL children and their parents are able to use the translate facility on Class Dojo.
- Phonics videos and resources are available to support the youngest children in our school.

#### **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.





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**If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?**

The provision offered for a child who is self-isolating will mirror that of their peers. However, we ask that should the child or parents be unwell during the period of self-isolation that they inform their child's class teacher so that they are aware that work may not be able to be completed. All of the class teacher videos can be watched at any time and so if a child or parent is unwell the learning they have missed will remain accessible and available on the Class Dojo page.