



## Willow Fields Primary School

### Information About Remote Learning

#### **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**

We will endeavor to get remote learning up and running as soon as we know of an absence but a pupil's first day or two of being educated remotely might look different from our standard approach, while we take all necessary actions e.g. adapting work already planned, allocating a device, to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching. Following this initial period, the children will then be taught the full breadth of the curriculum, including foundation subjects, which include Art, Geography, History, Computing, Music, PE and PSHE.

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

We have chosen to complete remote learning work via the online platform of Seesaw because this has a higher level of engagement than paper packs of work being sent home. All children have access to a Seesaw account which will allow all children immediate access to remote learning. The child's class teacher will be able to assign work, along with a short introduction video, to complete at home. Members of staff will be able to offer swift feedback throughout the day as well as communicate with your child; providing them with opportunities to review their work and extend their learning. Members of staff will be available to answer questions to support your child with both connectivity issues as well as the learning that has been assigned for them. There are also a number of school devices, including dongles, which can be loaned to children who do not have access to a device on which to complete remote learning or access to wi-fi.

## **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?**

During time spent completing remote learning, we will 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. These include:

- Maths activities – we have made the decision to change the Maths timetable to support home learning. This means that there are topics being taught in a different order this year to ensure that the concepts children find more challenging are left for when the children come back to school as this will allow us to support the children fully with these concepts. In addition to this, we recognise the challenges that remote learning can have on parents who are supporting multiple children or are still working and we hope the changes to our yearly timetable will also help support parents.
- Foundation subjects – for our foundation subjects we have made the decision to follow our usual sequence of learning, including the allocated timescales for completing these tasks. However, to ensure that the children are building on prior knowledge and skills and to help cover previously missed topics due to the previous lockdown, some children will complete topics and learning from the previous year e.g. Year 6 cover to Year 5 topics, which will allow for any learning that has been missed to be covered as well as consolidation of previously taught skills and topics. Therefore remote learning will not incur any further missed prior learning nor will it impact on the future teaching of content when children return to school. Our school curriculum will be amended once the children return to school to reflect on the topics taught and to ensure that all year groups complete their allocated topics fully.
- Access to other platforms may be necessary to support remote learning tasks e.g. Times Table Rock Stars, Reading Plus, Purple Mash, Oak National Academy etc
- PE – school continues to employ coaches to deliver PE content in school where this is safe and appropriate during lockdown. Staff may post alternative PE provision or tasks at this time as activities in school may not be accessible in the home e.g. rugby skills. Wherever possible, this will be delivered via Joe Wicks for example.

## **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 of all learning and subjects set (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	3 hours a day.
Key Stage 2 (Years 3 - 6)	4 hours a day.

## **Accessing remote education**

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

We are using Seesaw to deliver our online remote learning package; as well as other platforms where necessary to the subject being covered. Work will be assigned on this platform daily for every child to start at 9am Monday to Friday. At 9am children will log onto the platform and this will be used as their registration. Throughout the day, allocated staff members will be monitoring work and they will be offering feedback, challenge and support where needed; as well as talking to your child through the comments section under each piece of work which your child can, and should, respond to. We will send all parents the login details for their child's account in a variety of ways – Facebook message, email or text message. Once logged on, children will see the activities set as well as the introductory videos created by staff or links to websites which will also support them whilst they work. By logging onto the Seesaw platform and engaging with staff; we can complete welfare checks and also support with any mental health concerns or anxiety. Concerns identified through remote learning will be followed up by contact from a member of staff, the Well-being and Family support worker or a Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Assessment will be completed via the evidence uploaded, via discussion and comments through the Seesaw platform and also via quizzes and assessments set as part of the learning set or as an end of unit task depending on the duration of the remote learning period.

### **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 or that where they do multiple users may be required to access it throughout the day. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- Providing laptops – if you, or your child, does not have access to a device (laptop or iPad) then we may be able to loan you a laptop for the duration of the school closure. We have a limited number of these, so we would operate this on a first

come, first served basis. Please speak to Mrs Robertson (Headteacher) or Mr Dawson (Assistant Headteacher) if you need a device. We ask that you take care of these laptops in case they are needed in the future for further closures of school or bubbles. Loans of these resources are dependent on the completion of an acceptable use agreement being completed and we ask parents to return the devices in a good condition.

- Providing support with internet connection – if you do not have access to the internet at home, please speak to Mrs Robertson or Mr Dawson as we may be able to help. We have a limited number of dongles in school which can be loaned out to be used to support connectivity. In addition to this, we are also able to support parents with increasing their monthly data allowances with certain networks to support with tethering (or hot-spotting) another device. This request needs to be completed by school so please see us if this is something that you may need.
- If children are unable to be supported with a device or data then school will provide parents and children with paper work packs which need to be collected and returned to school each week.

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

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

- All work will be set through Seesaw where children are able to complete the work and send it back to us for feedback.
- Recorded teaching – for each activity, or where needed, there will be either a 5 minute introductory video for children recorded by their teacher, or a video from another source, such as Oak National Academy Learning or BBC Bitesize. This will help to support children with their learning as they will be able to watch the video demonstrations / modelling of the activity multiple times whilst they are completing their activities.
- If additional support is needed, members of staff are able to phone the child to provide additional support if needed.
- Reading is crucial for every child's learning as without this, they are limited with their access to the curriculum. With this in mind, we will continue to set reading tasks to every child each week. In addition to this, there will be reading modelled regularly by staff, reading their class novel, on either Seesaw or our Facebook page. We will then also ask children to read to us through the Seesaw app, they will record themselves for up to 5 minutes and then staff will offer feedback based on this, just as they would during one-to-one reading sessions in school.

- Staff teaching phonics will provide a video of teaching activities each day.
- Tasks such as Reading Plus, Times Table Rock Stars and Purple Mash will have the progress of the child analysed by staff via the tools within the programmes.
- Where needed, the school website is continually updated with remote learning content where there may be a delay in accessing a device etc.

## **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 expect children to complete all activities set to them on the Seesaw app each day. As previously mentioned, this will be approximately 3 hours a day for Key Stage 1 and 4 hours a day for Key Stage 2. In addition to this, we also expect children to answer any questions given to them after completing their work, just as they would if they were in the classroom; as this supports their routine of learning. Staff will work as teams to ensure that content is uploaded and comments are responded to as quickly as possible to address and tackle any misconceptions as would happen in the classroom via 'live marking'.

We ask that parents support us during times of remote learning by setting routines at home to support learning. We appreciate that it may be hard for some children to complete more than one activity in a row, so setting up a routine of breaks between tasks might be beneficial, particularly for younger children. Whilst children are remote learning, there will be a member of staff who has the responsibility to offer support and guidance. This member of staff will make contact via phone at least once a week to talk to both yourself and your child/ren. This is a good opportunity to raise any concerns or seek support for specific activities if you need it. Parents are also encouraged to message teachers on our Facebook page or by using the class email address which will be monitored regularly.

Where children are not seen to be engaging with remote learning staff will ensure that they contact the parent in a timely manner to support them with engagement. This may be through the provision of checklists and timetables for the children to keep them on track or through speaking to the child on the telephone to address concerns and give support or even through the provision of motivational video messages to the child. Throughout the provision of remote learning routines such as our Star Awards will be presented remotely to aid engagement and celebrate success for those in school and also learning remotely. Certificates will be posted to recipients!

Where concern remains around lack of engagement, school will work with parents outside agencies, where appropriate, to support the child to reengage.

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

Every day that your child is remote learning, there will be a member of staff who is responsible for monitoring the work being completed through Seesaw. Throughout the day, this staff member will comment on your child's work and offer feedback and challenge to support your child's learning. If this work is not being completed, staff members will make contact with parents, usually through a phone call, to discuss the lack of engagement and raise this as a concern. This communication is to discuss how best we can support both parents and children to ensure that the remote learning is being completed.

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

As a school, we recognise that feedback and assessment is crucial for children to support them with their learning. Feedback and assessment can take many forms and is not always written comments for individual children. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms are also valid and effective methods. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Written comments – children will receive regular written feedback to their work, which will allow the class teacher to offer support and challenge through the questioning in the comments underneath the work. Children can then respond to this question to check for understanding. This will be daily feedback as we will aim to respond to as many pieces of work as we can across the course of each day.
- Verbal comments – for some children, mainly younger children, staff might record themselves given their feedback and attach this to the child's work. This then allows the child to access the feedback in an appropriate way.
- Staff will use quizzes from Oak National Academy, Ed Shed or Kahoot to provide assessments to children. This information will then be used to inform the following lessons set for remote learning.
- Each week, all children who are remote learning will have a phone call from a member of staff to discuss how they are finding the activities and what they may need support with. This form of assessment will allow us to either provide additional videos to support the child or provide different work to allow the child to further practice this skill or concept. These calls will also assess and support with

any mental health concerns that we may have about the child or which they would like to share with us.

### **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 carefully with parents and carers to support those pupils. As with all work set for children, the tasks for children with SEND will be assigned through Seesaw. These tasks will be catered for the needs of the child and ensure that they are of an appropriate level of challenge. With some children who have SEND, teachers might provide more scaffolds or resources, which they will be used to in class, to support the children to be successful with their learning at home. Remote learning for children with SEND will be monitored by the two SENDCos in school (Mr Dawson KS2 and Miss Hunter EYFS and KS1). They will be working with teachers to ensure that the work set is appropriate for the children as well as monitoring engagement and speaking to parents where required. If you have a child with SEND and have any questions regarding your child and their remote learning, please get in touch with the SENDCos.

Younger children are already familiar with the use of Seesaw as this is the platform used for delivering homework activities and for gathering parental views to inform learning journals. For this reason, we have no concerns at using this platform for remote learning as it has also proved to be successful in EYFS for staff, children and their parents / carers.

### **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 and monitoring of pupils both at home and in school. However, we will endeavor to provide the same activities and learning as that in the classroom as far as practically possible; however where this can not be provided e.g. through lack of home equipment and resources, external visitors in school delivering content etc. then alternative learning will be provided for the equivalent time for that subject.

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

If your child is self-isolating, they will still have access to remote learning, following the daily timings mentioned above, as it is a requirement that children both have access to this as well as completing this. Work will still be assigned in the usual way, through Seesaw, and there will be feedback and questions asked in the usual way. The only difference that there will be is the timing of feedback. We will complete feedback in a timely manner but this may be hard for the class teacher to complete immediately after finishing if they are teaching the rest of the class. We will ensure that your child has feedback before they complete their work the following day, just as they would if they were in school.