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Remote education provision: information for parents

For children self-isolating during the pandemic, Purbrook Junior School will provide remote education to support learning at home. We know and appreciate that children learn differently at home compared to in school. Home is typically associated with comfort and relaxation. School is associated with focused work and timetables providing rich opportunities for children to engage with each other and to have support from the teacher and teaching assistant.

We appreciate that you may also be working from home or have demands being placed on you from siblings. Teachers will provide dedicated support time for your child. Teachers will also feedback to your child knowing what they are capable of achieving independently. The information provided in this document outlines what the school will offer and how it will support families. Should you have any additional questions please do not hesitate to contact us, we are all very happy to help in any way we can.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

We will offer children learning at home the same curriculum as those children learning in school. We will follow the National Curriculum and the school curriculum. The main difference will be how the children learn. We know that children learning at home may have to do so on their own. With this in mind, we will design independent activities which we believe the children can complete on their own. We also appreciate that working on your own is not always as exciting or as stimulating as working with your peers. Knowing this, we will design tasks which we hope will stimulate your child learning independently. We will also provide online opportunities for your child to engage with others in their class and year group regularly.

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

Teachers have prepared age appropriate work for your child to complete at home should they have to self-isolate. This work reflects teaching and learning which has already been covered in school. The tasks your child will complete will support them to revise, consolidate and deepen their knowledge and understanding. The learning will be purposeful and engaging and your child should be able to complete it on their own.



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, we will do our very best to achieve this. The school will provide work for your child to complete parallel to what is being taught in school. We are very keen for your child to keep up with their curriculum learning and will support them to do this. In some subjects adaptations may have to be made and we will signpost you to Oak Academy or other online resources for supportive teaching guidance. Teachers will communicate with you via Zoom and Google Classroom. Learning activities will be uploaded to Google classroom.

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. Children will receive a broad and balanced curriculum offer including P.E.

How will my child be taught remotely?

- Teachers will use a variety of approaches to ensure quality first teaching is delivered as effectively as possible. This will include live support at the point of learning, recorded clips to model learning and independent activities for completion. Some activities may need to be 'turned in' or submitted via Google Classroom. There will be a balance to ensure learning is not all centred on the screen.
- Teachers may supply a video link or text for each lesson along with an independent activity. Teachers know their children really well and will use their knowledge to ensure that the tasks set are appropriately pitched and therefore the children should be able to complete the work **independently**.
- Some activities may be completed using a pen/pencil as opposed to on screen.
- Teachers may invite children to a separate meeting (via Zoom or Google) where they will work with a small group of children on a specific aspect of learning.

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- Teachers and LSAs responsible for remote learning during the week will be available throughout the day for children to be able to contact them if they need help or advice with a piece of work. The children will be regularly reminded of this.
- In addition to the work set, it is important that the children continue to practise their times tables, spelling and reading at home. Teachers and LSAs will advise their classes and year groups of this.

When and where will work be set?

- Every week, an overview of the learning will be uploaded to Google Classroom. This will identify what the children are learning in these core subjects for the coming week(s). This will help parents and children understand the purpose of the learning set.
- Year groups will publish work in Google Classroom. Your children are all aware of how to access this.
- Year groups will indicate a suggested timetable and the expectations of when work needs to be submitted. Wherever possible submission times should be adhered to so that the teachers can review the work and provide feedback (we appreciate that for good reasons this is not always possible and understand the need to be flexible).
- Please encourage your child to contact the teacher via the live stream in Google Classroom should they require further help. Children should be encouraged to contact their teacher if they need additional support with their work. We are promoting independence and resilience to our learners through this.
- All assignments for the day will be organised by year teams. The learning will be clearly marked for the children to access. Links and resources will be made clear and can usually be watched on smart phones, tablets and gaming consoles.
- A video link or text may be included in sessions. These will be pasted into the instructions and added as a link for the children to open directly from Google Classroom. Please remember these videos/links can usually be watched on smart phones and tablets. Please see our website for good advice and tips for remote learning. This can be found in our Purbrook Learners section.



Accessing remote education

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

- Google Classroom

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 contact you to offer you the use of a school or DfE laptop
- Signpost you to practical 'How to..' videos and tutorials available to support understanding and access
- Ensure you have access to any additional practical resources you need and make these resources available for collection / delivery
- Identify key staff to contact for support

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

- Google Classroom
- recorded teaching via Google classroom or (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- interactive online platforms
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- online library books
- online phonics / developmental reading books
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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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?

- Plan a clear routine for the day using and try to stick to times. Your child will be set independent tasks– if this is 30 minutes – please stick to this as much as you possibly can. You may think they could have done better or more. Please submit the work your child completes and let the teacher respond. The teacher knows your child well, knows what they can do during independent time and will help you by making a response to your child. Once you deviate from the timetable, it is hard to get back on track.
- Plan ahead for the use of technology if your child is sharing equipment with a sibling at home. (Please remember to contact the school if you require help with technology and we will do our best to support if we can).
- If possible, set a quiet place in the house where the children will always complete their home learning. They will associate this place with work and the rest of the space as home. It will also aid them to concentrate.
- Plan in break times as linked to the timetable. These are important for the children and for you. In school, these would typically be a 15-minute break in the morning and an hour break for lunchtime. Allow them to select something that they find relaxing to do or better still encourage them to complete some physical activity – there are daily activities uploaded on our social media streams. This will help them to refocus their minds for the next session. Avoid allowing them to do things you know it will be a battle to interrupt them from e.g. a television programme that will last longer than the timetabled break time!
- As teachers, we are demanding of children in school and push them to achieve their very best. They do not have constant one-to-one attention in class and as such, we advise you to remind your child that they are capable of having a go on their own. Encourage your child to get on independently and remind them of this when they demand your attention. Of course, they may need a little help along the way but not one-to-one teaching from you all day. Teachers will not set something they feel your child cannot attempt on their own.

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- Stick to the time allocations for the lessons. If your child does not complete the work in the time or you think the work is not up to an appropriate standard allow them to upload it anyway. The teacher will fight this battle for you! Don't stretch one lesson over to another because you feel more can be achieved. Again, the teacher will help you if they feel your child needs help.
- Set an 'end of school day' time for the day and enjoy some family time!

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

- Every child will receive regular correspondence through daily Zoom sessions. Teachers and LSAs will take a register and notify the Pastoral Team of any absence or inactivity.
- Children and parents are welcome to message teachers through Google Classroom or the year group e mail address. The year group will support you through these platforms.
- Teachers will provide feedback on learning as outlined above and in line with the school feedback policy.
- Teachers will invite the children to meetings online at different points throughout the day/week. We believe it to be important for the children to be able to communicate directly with the teachers. Protocols for this are available on our website in the advice and tips section.
- Our Home /School Link Worker, Mrs Ginn and ELSA Mrs Johnson will make welfare checks. Mrs Mott, Mrs Maxwell and Mr Williams may also make welfare calls or visits.
- All children on the Special Educational Needs register will receive regular support and communication from their designated Teaching Assistant to support and encourage 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, Pick 6 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:

- The teachers in charge of home learning will review all work completed by all home learning children from the year group following the submission time
- Specific work requested by the teacher will receive feedback (all work will be looked at by the teacher but not every piece will be marked). During the period of isolation, teachers will feedback, to children on Google Classroom in line with the School's feedback policy. Teachers have a very good knowledge of what the children can achieve in school and feedback will be reflective of this. They will be honest with the children and provide additional personal feedback if needed. Feedback may praise, challenge or hold learners to account based on the teacher's knowledge of the child (please advise the teacher of any home circumstances they need to consider or be mindful of – thank you)
- **Whole class feedback** is reflective of the work submitted and will be provided regularly for English and Maths and other subjects on the class stream. Whole class feedback may take the form of a live stream, a video recording or written feedback. Feedback will support the children in moving forwards with their learning and will be timed at pivotal points in the learning journey
- Additional feedback will be added reflective of the children's submissions and as required
- Teachers may send personalised feedback to some children when they believe it to be appropriate to support learning
- Self-mark sheets will be uploaded with some lesson activities in the assignment so the children can mark for themselves prior to uploading. This provides children with instant feedback. Children should complete any corrections where required by the teacher to show they have understood where they went wrong. This is a routine we regularly use in class.

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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 will set work reflective of ability and independent skills
- Teaching Assistants are deployed to effectively support remote learning. This is being reviewed and amended regularly based on feedback.
- All children on the Special Educational Needs register will receive regular communication from their designated Teaching Assistant to support and encourage home learning. This may be in separate break out rooms, separate calls etc.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

- Pupils self-isolating should follow the home learning programme of study which links to what they have been studying and learning in school.

Additional help

- **Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require any further assistance.**

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