

Remote education provision: Information for parents



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This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to our pupils and parents/carers about what to expect from remote education where national or 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

In school we use the *Literacy Company* Pathways to Read and Pathways to Write schemes to teach reading and writing and *White Rose Maths* to teach the core of Maths. We also tap into *NCETM* and *NRICH* for problem solving and challenge. It is for this reason that we have adopted the same for our home learning.

We are using Literacy Company, Pathways to Home Learning, which mirror the English being taught in school, White Rose for Maths, Science and RE is through the *Oak Academy*, and history, geography, art etc are planned using a variety of online tools such as *BBC Bitesize* or *Oak Academy*. Teachers may pre-record a video to launch a lesson, and the link to this will be linked to the task on the dojo portfolio area of your child's profile. Remote learning will mainly focus on English and Maths in the morning and Science or foundation subjects in the afternoon. During a complete lockdown, our two sports providers will send through PE at home sessions to ensure health and well being.

School has also introduced a well-being Welly Wednesday each week, in school and at home, where children are encouraged to go outside and enjoy the environment. A suggested focus is set each week to help parents/carers with this.

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

When you notify us that your child will need to self-isolate, we will ensure that the work the children are completing in school is made available to you through our remote learning platform, class dojo.

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 aim to 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. We will concentrate on English to include reading, writing, phonics and spelling, Maths, Science and topic work which will incorporate Geography, History, RE, PSHE, Art and technology.

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	2-3 hours a day, but the majority of this learning will be play based, with some set pieces.
Key Stage 1	3 hours a day
Key Stage 2	4 hours a day

Accessing remote education

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

At Aston we have moved away from adding the work onto the website, and instead are using Class dojo. <https://teach.classdojo.com/>

This effectively means work can be viewed, completed and uploaded all in one place.

In circumstances where parents and carers are struggling to access, we have a small number of laptops, some provided by the DFE, which we are able to loan out to you. We can also provide technical support and advice. If after following all of the above, we are still unable to support online learning for individual children, we can provide paper packs as a last resort- please read below:

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 a limited number of additional devices some of which were supplied very kindly by the DFE to ensure that all of our children have equal access to remote learning.

Please contact the school for further details about:

- laptops or tablets which we can allow you child to loan out. Please email admin@aston.cheshire.sch.uk to find out more information
- If you have issues with broadband and connectivity, please also use the same email as above to let us know, and we will see how we can help and support you.
- Most work on the remote learning platform can be completed electronically or on paper, and your child should not need a printed pack. However, in some situations where internet connectivity is an ongoing issue, school will endeavour to ensure children have access to material which may be printed.
- Staff are available to help and guide parents and ultimately children to submit work to their teachers through the dojo app. However, if you do not have online access, we will suggest an alternative to you.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

In this section, we will explain the range of approaches we use to teach pupils remotely.

Each day and each subject is uploaded onto the dojo app **one week at a time**. This will often afford children the option on how to complete. This can include using e.g photographs of written work, videos eg reciting a poem, reading their reading book, annotating a pre-printed sheet, messaging through the app. We certainly would not want children to stop writing and are happy to provide exercise books to any child who feels this would help.

- Some lessons will be recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons or video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- 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)
- Well-being Zoom calls with evaluative quizzes using *Kahoot* to establish what children know, and what children need to know.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

In this section, please set out briefly:

- At Aston we fully understand the range of circumstances that dictate a pupil's need to be provided with remote education. E.g. they may be away from school due to themselves or a family member contracting Covid, and the need to self-isolate. In this instance, if they are ill, or you as a parent are ill and unable to support them to access their work, please let school know and we will do our best to support them and you. At the very least, we would strongly encourage you to keep up the reading and phonics work, particularly for our younger children.
- In the case of a full lockdown where school would be closed except for children of Critical workers and Vulnerable children, we understand that everyone has a range of circumstances, and although we need you to be aware of what the government expectation at each key stage is, we fully understand the difficulties many of you are facing. **DO what you can, when you can** and keep in regular touch with us. We are here to support you and can discuss ways to adapt the curriculum to work with individual circumstances.
- We would strongly encourage in all situations where your child is not attending school, that the routine and timetable suggested on each class section of the Home Learning page of the school website <https://www.aston.cheshire.sch.uk/page/home-learning-2020/67894>. Class Dojo is to be used to know what activities require a response each day. Keeping routines to support your child's education is a vitally important element in keeping the pattern of school.
- In the case where you are not able to access work remotely, please contact school.

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

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Staff will approve work each day, and it will move into your child's portfolio. They will comment on a selection of work to give your child individual feedback, particularly if they have made exceptional progress or need some additional advice to correct errors. Any work requiring additional input by your child will be marked as 'Draft' and returned to them to complete.
- Staff will monitor if any children are not uploading work and may contact you as parent/carer to establish if there is an issue and if there is something more they can do to help and support.
- If there are any concerns we will be in touch with you to offer support.
- If we have not been able to make contact, the school's safeguarding procedures will be followed. Please see the safeguarding policy.

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:

- the methods for feed-back on pupils' work at Aston will include, written comments, suggested ways to improve or extend/follow on a task.
- Pupils will receive feedback on some of their work on a daily basis.

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:

- Families with children who have SEND will be offered a laptop where available and needed.
- Information on adaptations to school learning in line with their EHCP or IEP plan will be offered.
- In EYFS, a range of video tools such as Zoom, tapestry and Class dojo will be used with the children to ensure engagement. These will be a mixture of live and pre-recorded lessons.

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?

Class teachers will be in regular touch to ensure that your child is accessing their remote learning. Wherever possible this will mirror the curriculum taking place in school.