

Remote education provision: information for parents

St Thomas Becket Catholic Primary School

January 2021

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions mean that all pupils except vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers are required to remain at home.

Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

We 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. For example, online teaching videos/ resources may be used in PE where space and resources may be limited at home.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

We recognise that individual children will take different amounts of time to access a lesson and complete set tasks. In line with DFE guidance we expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly at least the following number of hours each day:

Reception and Key Stage 1 We recognise that the time taken will vary greatly from pupil to pupil and we will therefore provide and signpost parents to a wide range of additional resources to further support /challenge pupils.	Minimum 3 hours a day Those hours include both direct teaching and time for pupils to complete tasks or assignments independently. Teachers will suggest a timetable for each day to support parents/ children.
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<p>Key Stage 2</p> <p>We recognise that the time taken will vary greatly from pupil to pupil and we will therefore provide and signpost parents to a wide range of additional resources to further support /challenge pupils.</p>	<p>Minimum 4 hours a day</p> <p>Those hours include both direct teaching and time for pupils to complete tasks or assignments independently.</p> <p>Teachers will suggest a timetable for each day to support parents/ children.</p>
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Accessing remote education

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

- Lessons will be posted on year group gsuite platform (accessed via school website).
- Children will be asked to submit specific activities via Google Classroom (Ks2) and Tapestry (Ks1) and will be given individual feedback by their teacher.
- They will also be able to message their teacher each day using either Tapestry or Google Classroom and teacher will respond (unless on teaching rota for Key worker children that week).
- Each year group will post a daily 'check in' video to set out the children's learning for the day and give general feedback points from previous work when appropriate. This will include a short story / poem / current affairs item to begin the day.
- Each Wednesday teachers will host a live class Google Meet where children can meet online to see and speak to their teacher and classmates. This is designed to be a well-being session and the structure will be informed by an RE, PSHE focus.

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:

- Parents should contact the school via admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk if they require support to access devices to support online learning or are having difficulty with internet connection
- The school has a limited supply of laptops (25 mini-laptops purchased by school and 20 chrome books provided by DFE) that can be provided to families who are struggling with online access.
- We try to limit the necessity for printed materials as families may not have access to printers and parents should contact the school if they are having difficulty accessing printed materials
- We are able to provide packs of printed materials for vulnerable children who struggle to engage with online learning.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We aim to deliver a programme of digital remote education: often known as online learning- this is remote learning delivered through digital technologies. Sometimes, it may be more effective to deliver our remote education through worksheets or a pack of resources for those children who struggle to access online learning (either because of lack of home devices or the child's learning style).

We recognise that the quality of the online learning is more important than the method used to deliver it. We are also mindful that for many families, the optimum learning time may change each day dependent on access to devices, connectivity and availability of adult support at home. Recorded lessons in our class Gsuites allow children to carry out set tasks, engage with lessons when they are ready (and suits the structure of their day) and have online access. They can also pause, revisit and break up their learning into smaller chunks, where this is more suited to their learning style. We clearly set out work in days and weeks (dated) so current and previous online learning is available at all times.

We aim to increase pupil engagement by ensuring that pupils continue to feel part of a class and larger school community. To support this teachers will post daily 'check in' videos with classes to set out their daily activities and whole school assemblies will be available for all classes each week. A whole school Friday assembly allows us to continue to recognise pupils who have excelled in different curriculum areas through our achievement certificates.

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

- Teachers will provide online lessons using Smart apps such as Explain Everything, Book Creator , I movie, and Smart Learning suite online to provide recorded lessons with a variety of voice over / teacher demonstration/ explanation/modelling . Children will access these via Gsuite.
- **Maths and English** work will be uploaded on a **daily basis**. The current day's learning will be available by 3:30pm the day before.
- As Topic (wider curriculum- **Science, RE, Collective Worship, Geography, French, PE, PSHE, Art, Music, Computing**) work is on-going, teachers will make this available from the beginning of the week so that parents can plan ahead and will give advice about how/ when this should be completed. Teachers will also direct children to PE /physical activities each week.
- There will be 2 RE lessons available each week.

In order to keep our curriculum as broad as possible , the following are also part of our offer:

Art

Mrs Pitts will produce 'Arthouse' videos which provide fun and accessible art activities for children, using materials that can be found at home.

Mrs Pitts previous art videos are available in the **Creative Ideas** area.

French

Madam Severine is providing weekly videos of French lessons for Ks2 classes. These will be available on each Junior class G-suite.

Music

The children will be able to log in to YUMU which is part of Charanga Music World. This provides a wide range of resources for music-making and learning at home

RE

The RE page contains The Wednesday Word as well as link to liturgies and prayers.

Becket Fun and Games Page

This area includes **Teacher Challenges** for 2021 as well as new stories read by teachers (videos) in the **Story time** area.

Assemblies Area

Weekly recorded assemblies are available on the class g-suites as well as the Assemblies area.

Eco-schools Page

Challenges for helping us achieve our eco-schools award

Bug Club(reading)

The school subscribes to Bug Club books for children in Reception, KS1 and KS2 so that children have access to books to read at home, through the Activelearn website (teachers allocate reading books each week which match the child's current reading level). Children in Y1-6 also have access to the Grammar and Spelling Bug videos and games which teachers will allocate relative to what is being learnt in class.

Teachers will also direct parents/ children to commercially available websites eg Oxford Owl supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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 ask parents to check what work is being set for their child and set aside time for children to complete their work. Teachers will issue guidance about how to manage the daily learning and offer suggested timetables.

Parents are asked to contact their child's teacher via admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk should they require support or advice.

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

Whilst remote learning is in place Reception, Years 1 and 2 will use Tapestry and KS 2 will use Google Classroom to submit work and teachers will feed back.

Teachers will contact parents directly where it becomes apparent that children are not engaging and will offer support as necessary.

Reception Each week teachers will respond to:

2 pieces of English, 2 pieces of maths and 1 piece of topic / RE work.

Year 1 and 2 Each week teachers will respond to:

WRITING Children to upload plan for writing and teachers will feedback with areas to improve
Children to upload final piece of writing- teachers will respond.

MATHS Children to upload 2 pieces of work – teacher to mark and/or comment

TOPIC or RE- Children to upload 1 piece of work- teacher to mark and/or comment

Year 3-6 Each week teachers will respond to:

WRITING Children to upload plan for teacher to comment on.

Children to upload BIG Write - teachers will mark and provide feedback.

MATHS Children to upload 2 pieces of work – teacher to mark and/or comment

TOPIC or RE- Children to upload 1 piece of work- teacher to mark and/or comment

Teachers will let parents know via the year group Gsuite page which pieces to upload.

Teaching Assistants will make fortnightly pastoral phone calls to families of children not currently in school. Whilst these will be casual conversations about how children are getting on they will provide an opportunity to discuss any difficulties children might be having which can be communicated to the class teacher.

Children are able to message their teachers each day, either using tapestry or Google classroom. The teacher will respond as soon as possible.(Teachers who are on teaching rota for Key Worker children will not be able to respond to children's daily comments during that week. Teachers will make parents aware when they are on rota).

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:

- Teachers will assess and provide feedback via Tapestry and Google Classroom.
- Teachers will provide feedback on the five pieces of work required to be submitted each week (see previous section).

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:

Teachers will contact and work with individual families as necessary to ensure that appropriate and accessible work and support is provided.

Work set on gsuite will provide a range of activities to support, consolidate and provide challenge in the learning.