

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 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

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?

All children have access to Microsoft Teams and will be able to access remote learning using the platform. Learning resources will be available for children so that they can access the same core curriculum as those pupils who remain in school e.g. key worker and vulnerable children.

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 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, physical education for pupils who are learning remotely may be different to what is available to children in school, due to differences in physical space, resources and opportunities to work with other children.

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:

Key Stage 1	3 hours
Key Stage 2	4 hours

Accessing remote education

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

All children, from Nursery to Year 6, have access to Microsoft Teams.

In early years, Tapestry will be an additional online tool.

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:

Loan of Devices for Disadvantaged Children

The Department for Education (DfE) is providing laptops and tablets to schools to help children and families access remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19).

Parents, carers and pupils cannot apply for digital devices or internet access through this scheme themselves. They should contact their school to discuss requirements for accessing remote education.

The DfE will provide schools with an allocation of devices for disadvantaged children in years 3 to 11 who do not have access to a device and whose face-to-face education is disrupted.

St Bede's Catholic Primary School will receive a limited supply of devices to be used to support disadvantaged children who are otherwise unable to access remote education.

School will allocate their limited supply of devices, aiming to give priority to disadvantaged children:

- with no digital devices in their household
- whose only available device is a smartphone
- with a single device in their household that's being shared with more than one other family member

Please contact the school office if you think that your child may be eligible:

01325 466411

admin@stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk

Internet Access for Disadvantaged Children

DfE is working in partnership with mobile network operators to help schools support disadvantaged pupils in years 3 to 11 who rely on a mobile internet connection when their face-to-face education is disrupted by coronavirus (COVID-19).

Disadvantaged families may be able to benefit from free increases to their mobile data if they are a customer of either:

- EE
- O2
- Sky Mobile
- SMARTY
- Tesco Mobile
- Three
- Virgin Mobile
- Vodafone

More providers may join the scheme soon.

The amount of data available to families will vary by provider. Data will be increased until the end of July 2021. ST Bede's and BHCET will be able to request these free mobile data increases for families during the spring and summer 2021 terms if they are experiencing disruption to face-to-face education.

Please contact the school office if you think that your child may be eligible:

01325 466411

admin@stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk

Printed Materials

As a school we are trying to limit the number of visitors and contacts on a daily basis, therefore where possible we would prefer to refrain from providing printed materials. If however, you have no online access then please contact the office.

01325 466411

admin@stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online lessons)
 - daily maths and English lessons using Teams
- Recorded teaching
 - lesson input may be pre-recorded by teachers
 - White Rose Maths videos used alongside teacher's own content
 - videos are available for children to access at any time during the day so if they are unable to attend live lessons then they still receive the same teaching input
- commercially available websites support teaching and learning include Read Write Inc, Literacy Shed and White Rose Maths.

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?

Children are expected to engage with remote learning daily; either in the live lessons or at another time.

At St Bede's we appreciate that family demands and situations may vary between household (e.g., parents may be supporting multiple children all trying to access remote learning, devices may be shared between family members). Wherever possible we would encourage parents to have set routines to support your child's education, and if possible, this is matched to the routines within school (timetables will be shared with parents).

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

A child's overall engagement with their work will be checked weekly using Teams. Teacher's will check to see who is attending lessons and submitting work.

Where engagement becomes a concern, school will contact parents to discuss any issues and offer support to increase engagement where possible.

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:

- During live lesson, teachers feedback to children live.
- Outside of live lessons, teacher to respond to questions during school hours.
- For submitted work, teacher to provide weekly feedback using 'Chat' feature or 'Assignments' direct to pupil.
- Feedback may be given during subsequent lessons.
- General or whole class feedback can be shared using the class 'Posts'.

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:

- class teachers will ensure that the work provided is accessible for all children
- class teachers will provide weekly communication for pupils with SEND
- class teacher is available for communications daily to provide guidance and support.
- the school SENCO will continue to liaise with external professionals and parents as normal.

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?

- Children may be able to join lessons live using Teams, however teachers will not be able to pre-record teaching for pupils self-isolating.
- Learning resources for core subjects to be provided on Teams, matched as closely as possible to the learning in school.