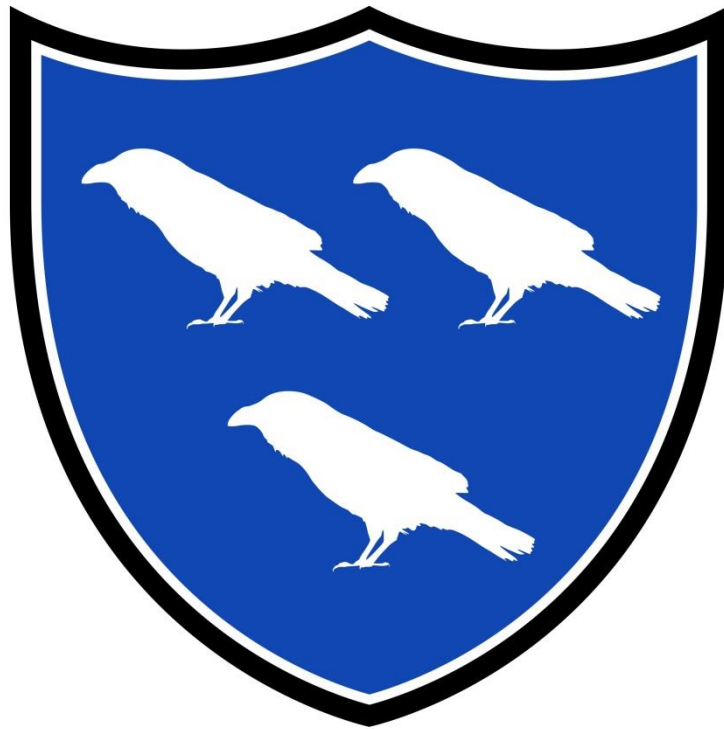


# Valley Primary School



## Remote Learning Offer

January 2021

## **Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents**

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents / carers about what to expect from remote education if local or national restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home. This document also explains what to expect where individual pupils have to undertake periods of self-isolation.

### **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 staff take the necessary actions to prepare for longer periods of remote teaching.

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

Valley Primary School offers immediate home learning for all pupils who have been asked to learn from home. This work can be accessed via the school's website under the following tabs: Curriculum/Self-Isolation Home Learning Support Packs. The work found in these support packs revises key concepts already covered in maths and English and there will also be tasks to complete in other subject areas such as science and IPC.

The work outlined in the support packs is updated on a half-termly basis.

#### **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?**

In general, pupils will receive the same curriculum remotely as that which would be offered in school. Some adjustments are made depending on the availability of teaching resources such as art resources, musical instruments and science equipment.

During periods of restricted school opening, pupils learning at home will receive the same curriculum as the pupils who are receiving their learning in school.

### **Remote Teaching and Study Time Each Day**

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

The current Department for Education guidance suggests that primary school-age pupils should spend 4 hours each day on their home learning. This is time spent receiving remote teaching and completing independent work. Pupils are also asked to complete daily reading, phonics, spelling and times tables practice too in addition to the work completed following a remote lesson.

Timings will vary dependent on the age and aptitude of individual pupils with our younger pupils accessing shorter more open-ended learning tasks based on the current theme.

### **Accessing Remote Learning**

#### **How will my child access any online remote education the school is providing?**

At Valley, Microsoft Teams is used to deliver the majority of remote teaching. For our younger pupils, this will involve a blend of pre-recorded lessons and live sessions for checking in and story time. From Year 2 upwards, pupils receive three live lessons daily. Maths and English lessons are split into two broad ability groups. Every pupil has their own Teams account and lesson invites are sent to these accounts.

Supporting learning resources are uploaded onto the school's website under the following tabs: curriculum/lockdown home-learning or year group bubble closure home-learning depending on the circumstances of why the pupils are being asked to learn at home.

Valley also uses other digital platforms to enhance its remote learning offer. These include:

- Bug Club online reading scheme
- Purple Mash
- IXL
- White Rose Maths
- Oak Academy

### **If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will the school support them to access remote education?**

Valley received 4 devices as part of the DfE scheme towards the end of the summer term. These have been deployed to families. Valley Primary School is awaiting delivery of a further 20 devices from the DfE as part of this scheme.

With the support of the PTA, the school runs local appeals for devices. Wherever possible, donated devices are repurposed and loaned out to families.

In the autumn term 2020, a survey was sent to all parents to seek their feedback on the school's home learning offer and for the Senior Leadership Team to better understanding the difficulties families face in connecting virtually with the home learning offer. Results were analysed and families who requested support were prioritised based on needs including: Free-School Meal status, status with Bromley Children's Social Care, Special Educational Needs.

The school offers regular updates to parents on the different schemes being run by mobile phone and internet providers in relation to internet connection. At present, Valley Primary School is not eligible to order routers or dongles as part of the DfE scheme.

Parents who have limited access to the school's remote learning offer or insufficient resources at home, can request printed learning packs. Parents should email their requests to [admin@valley.bromley.sch.uk](mailto:admin@valley.bromley.sch.uk) and packs can be collected from the Main Hall daily from Monday afternoon between the following time: 9.30 – 11am and 2.00 – 3.30pm.

### **How will my Child be Taught Remotely?**

Valley Primary School uses a combination of approaches to deliver its remote learning offer. Remote learning does not always mean live teaching. Valley's remote learning offer is made up of the following:

- Recorded videos by staff at school
- Short live lessons to introduce a task or activity
- Recorded teaching from outside the organisation such as the use of Oak National Academy or White Rose Maths
- Activities set on other digital platforms such as Purple Mash, IXL, Espresso
- More open-ended tasks set as per the Year Group's homework menu or weekly overview
- Whole-school or Key Stage activities set in relation to themed weeks such as Black History Month or Children's Mental Health Week
- Reading books set via the online reading scheme Bug Club

### **Engagement and Feedback**

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

As a school, we expect all pupils to engage in the daily remote learning offer and attend the live teaching sessions. As with normal school, pupils do not need to attend live sessions if they are feeling unwell but we kindly ask that parents explain absences to the Class Teacher via the class e-mail account.

We appreciate that each family context is different and the needs of individual pupils differ widely. Naturally, the younger pupils may require more support to navigate the Teams platform and to settle and begin a task but pupils in the older year groups should be able to complete the set tasks with growing independence.

The setting of daily routines can prove extremely useful to provide a familiar structure to the day and this also helps promote positive wellbeing. Your child's Class Teacher(s) will have shared suggested daily timetables as part of the weekly overviews.

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

Class Teachers report regularly to Senior Leaders about pupils' non-attendance or non-engagement in the remote learning offer. An attendance register is downloaded at the end of each lesson and shared with the SLT team.

Senior Leaders undertake weekly welfare calls and where concerns have been raised by the Class Teacher, families will receive a telephone call to check-in on the family's situation. If no contact is made by telephone or email, Senior Leaders will undertake a doorstep visit again to check on the welfare of pupils and wider family.

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

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual pupils. Whole-class or group feedback along with quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms all contribute to the ongoing assessment of pupil progress.

Class Teachers offer comments on work that is submitted and feedback comments are also communicated via platforms such as Purple Mash.

## **Additional Support for Pupils with Particular Needs**

We recognise that some pupils, for example those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access the school's remote learning offer without the support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families and staff will work with parents / carers to support wherever possible.

Under the direction of Mrs. Bradley, differentiated learning packs are prepared for pupils with more significant additional needs such as those pupils with an EHCP.

Pupils who have speech and language sessions as part of their EHC plan will have their sessions remotely with Lizzie Nicholls, SALT, from Bromley Speech and Language.

Some pupils will have a mentor from Bromley Mentoring Service and these sessions will take place remotely, through Microsoft Teams, on a weekly basis.

## **Remote Education for Self-Isolating Pupils**

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate, but the majority of their peer group remains in school, the remote learning offer will differ from the approach used when whole classes / Year Groups are learning at home. 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?

For the first day or two of a self-isolation period, pupils can access the home learning support packs found under the self-isolation home learning tab on the school's website. Beyond this, the Class Teacher will then email the parents the work being covered in class. Where possible, the Class Teacher will look to connect remotely with the pupil and, in some circumstances, the pupil will be invited to join some of the lessons taking place in class remotely via their Teams account.