

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 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?

- Clear information will be sent out to all parent/carers via parent mail
- Learning at Home grids will be available on the school's website, just follow the link on the home page
- Paper copies of all work will be made available on request

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, we accept that you will not be able to carry out all practical lessons at home and there are many lessons where you may not have the specialist equipment available.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

We acknowledge that learning at home can be challenging and we understand that successful learning is not always possible. It is also important to recognise that children find it harder to concentrate in the home environment and the same expectations that we have in school may well not be appropriate.

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 | Up to 3 hours |
| Key Stage 2 | Up to 4 hours |

These hours can also include practical lessons such as PE/exercise, art, construction and story times. They do not simply have to be purely 'academic'.

Accessing remote education

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

- Learning at Home activities are updated weekly on the school website and there are links here to all other areas of learning. Just follow the link on the home page
- Regular work set on Purple Mash- all children have a log in and can communicate with their teacher
- Regular work set on See Saw, work can be posted and children can communicate with their teacher through text, voice recording and video
- Learning@castlehill.kent.sch.uk email address set up for all parental enquiries and to send in work
- Regular online lessons, stories and assemblies on the Castle Hill YouTube channel

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:

- Where possible we will provide all children, who need one, with a laptop to enable them to access remote learning
- We are able to provide families, without wireless broadband, with a 4G router and a SIM card to enable connection
- The school will provide printed packs of all work that is set and this can be brought/sent into school for marking

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

In this section, please list the range of approaches you use to teach pupils remotely.

- Live Zoom sessions twice per week
- Recorded teaching available on YouTube and through Seesaw
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- Purple Mash online learning
- Teachers may also refer children to other selected websites

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?

- The school would expect all pupils to engage in some form of home learning
- We will monitor all children and be in regular contact if we notice that a child is not engaging
- It is important that this does not become a battle and we encourage parents to try and set some sort of plan to support the children's learning
- Parents should help their child in planning their day and support where they are able
- Parents are actively encouraged to contact the school at any time for guidance and support

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

- We will check pupil engagement on a weekly basis
- The school will contact you regularly if there has not been any communication or engagement

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 provide children with regular feedback either through digital learning platforms, email or written
- They will provide the children with personalised 'next steps' to continue their learning
- Where possible bespoke activities will be set
- Teachers will monitor the progress and achievement of work they receive

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:

- SEND pupils will be set appropriate work for their ability
- Children in Personalised Learning Groups (PLGs) will be set appropriate work by their teachers
- Parents with children in the Hearing Impaired Unit, will be contacted regularly by the Teachers of the Deaf.
- Plans/work can be set on an individual basis where necessary

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?

Remote education will be made available for all children. If they are isolating they will still have access to the same learning and curriculum as children who are still in school.