

The St. Bart's Academy Trust

Remote Education Provision



The Whitchurch CE Federation

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 if 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.

This information supplements the Federation Remote Learning Policy which is published on the Federation website and is to be used in conjunction with the St Bart's Multi Academy Home Learning/Covid 19 Closure Policy.

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?

It is the on-going expectation across the Federation that each class teacher will upload a weekly learning grid to their class Purple Mash page together with work which reflects the same curriculum being taught in the academy that week. The aim of the grid is to provide a range of learning activities, linked to our curriculum and its drivers, that enable children to complete work independently as well as activities that require adult guidance. Therefore, all children will have immediate opportunity to continue their learning. Children will also use Purple Mash Logins, Readwriter, Mathletics and TTRockstars to complete independent learning.

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?

The remote learning provision planned by the teachers will align to the planned school curriculum and link to our curriculum drivers. We will endeavour to match the objectives planned for in the classroom to those in the learning at home; this will be enabled through the use of adapted resources within the school as well as from institutions such as Oak National Academy.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

Please refer to the separate document, Remote Learning Overview.

Accessing remote education

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

The Whitchurch CE Federation uses Purple Mash as a remote learning platform. All children have a personal login (Nursery through to Year 6) and are familiar with the site. This is where all work will be available to complete, download or where external links to learning will be provided. In the event of the need for a group of learners to work from home, activities and resources will be shared on the learning platform on a weekly basis. These will be broken down into daily sessions which will replicate, where possible, the timetable being followed in each academy.

To support with teaching and learning, links will be shared within planning to further quality online resources such as Oak National Academy, Mathletics, Readwriter, White Rose Maths, Oxford Owl, Ruth Miskin and TT Rockstars.

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 completed a survey of on-line access at home and will refer to this in the first instance to establish a child's ability to access remote education. Parents will be reminded through written communication and telephone calls to contact the academies if their child is having difficulty accessing our remote education offer. Disadvantaged families will be directly contacted to establish if they wish to take forward the offer of a device or additional data.

We have a scheme in place to loan out laptops to families with parents signing a loan agreement for the device. In addition to this, the Junior Academy has access to devices through the DfE which can be issued to disadvantaged families from Y3 to Y6 once released to the academy by the Department.

Home learning packs will be created if requested. These will consist of a range of activities for the child to complete along with support for the parents/carers to guide them through the learning. These will be available for collection with strict social distancing in place.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Weekly learning will reflect a curriculum sequence that allows access to high-quality online and offline resources and teaching videos. We will continue to use the current schemes of work in place across the Federation, for example, Read, Write Inc, Pathways to Write, Pathways to Read, White Rose Maths, and Jigsaw. The children are already familiar with these schemes and therefore will benefit from consistency in vocabulary and lesson structure and content.

The curriculum for our nursery children will focus on the prime areas of learning. Teachers will provide weekly tasks through Mini Mash alongside short videos modelling rhymes, phonics and play based activities for parents, together with a daily story, either pre-recorded or through links to other web-based videos.

Reception teachers will focus on (but are not limited to) daily phonics, early maths and vocabulary activities which will be uploaded to Purple Mash.

Learning across KS1 and KS2 will be comprised of daily lessons in writing, reading or phonics, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling and weekly lessons in PE, RE, PSHE and topic activities for the children to complete.

In addition, for reception through to year 6, at least two class based / whole school worships will be provided each week to ensure children can continue to explore the distinctive Christian beliefs and narrative that underpins our Christian character and our federation aims as a whole. Class teachers will also offer access to a daily story, either pre-recorded or through links to other web-based videos.

All teachers will ensure that frequent, clear explanations of new content is provided, delivered by a teacher in the academy or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos. For example, the addition of audio descriptions to flipcharts / power points or pre-recorded exposition, links to other platforms (e.g. Mathletics, Readwriter, Times Tables Rockstars) or web-based lesson videos (e.g. Oak National Academy).

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?

In the event of any form of isolation and loss of learning caused by Coronavirus, parents must understand that engagement in home learning is compulsory.

Parents should:

- Ensure their child(ren) follow their daily timetable / task mat
- Make the academy aware if their child is experiencing any technical issues when accessing online learning
- Ensure their child only uses the platforms and devices for educational purposes
- Monitor the use of devices for access of other online materials and apps
- Contact the child's class teacher via the home learning email or the academy office if they are having difficulties accessing their home learning

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

Teachers will check Purple Mash on a daily basis.
If work is not being completed, then telephone or email contact will be made with the child's parent to establish what barriers are preventing the completion of the learning activities and offer solutions to overcome these.
For any children we consider to be vulnerable contact will also be made by one of the Federation Family Support Workers.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Children and parents are able to upload the work they have completed for the class teachers and other children in their class to see. Interaction between the teacher and peers is encouraged and children can request more support or ask questions to the teacher using this platform.
There is also a direct 'Home Learning' email option for those who do not wish to submit work or ask question publicly.
Teachers must ensure that feedback is provided to children in order to gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum, using questions and other suitable tasks such as quizzes. The Federation expects that each child will receive specific feedback at least once per week for reading, writing and maths. All other work will be acknowledged.
Teachers will also offer a daily Class Blog through Purple Mash.
Additional contact with the child/parent will be made via telephone on a weekly 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:

The Federation SENDCO will advise and monitor the provision provided by the class teacher and ensure provision is in place as documented in the child's EHCP or personalised learning plan. Individual learning needs will be taken into account and provision adapted accordingly. This will include updated risk assessments and reasonable endeavours, paper copies of resources and email support as required.
The class teacher will make weekly contact with the parents and child.
In addition, either the SENDCO, SEN assistant or SEN Support staff will contact the child / family weekly to provide support and learning updates.
If a SEND child does not engage with home learning, the SENDCO or Sen assistant will make contact and discuss potential barriers.

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?

If a child is isolating from the academy (i.e. the child is sent home to either receive a test or self-isolate as someone in the household is being tested), as is the case in a national or local lockdown, it is the on-going expectation across the Federation that each class teacher will upload a weekly learning grid to their class Purple Mash page together with work which reflects the same curriculum being taught in the academy that week. Therefore, all children will have immediate opportunity to continue their learning. Children will also use Purple Mash Logins, Readwriter, Mathletics and TTRockstars to complete independent learning.

For those children without access to an electronic device or internet, learning packs will be made available and can either be collected from the academy or where this is not possible, delivered by school staff. For any parents and children who wish, these can then be returned to the academies on a weekly basis and will be seen by the class teacher for feedback via email.

As with total lockdown the class teacher will monitor Purple Mash, emails and Twitter and respond to queries and uploaded work accordingly. At this point weekly welfare phone calls will take place by the class teacher or a member of the safeguarding team.

Each academy office will be a key point of contact for the families and important information will be uploaded to the federation website for reference.