

Remote Education Information for Parents and Carers

The Learning Village Academy Trust

Milton Primary Academy

January 2021

In the event of a class 'bubble' being sent home, or a pupil self-isolating, or local or national restrictions requiring entire year groups to remain at home or, indeed, a national lockdown resulting in the closure of schools, our Trust is committed to enabling the continuation of learning for **all** our pupils.

Remote learning is best enabled via the internet. We recognise that not all families have access to this and that, when parents are also working from home, families may also find challenges associated with limited data packages and with enabling enough (suitable) devices for each child. Where this is the case, we urge families to contact us so that we can support them best by providing support, a data SIM or provide paper-based learning and work options instead.

Whilst we accept that it is not possible to replicate the breadth or pace of the school curriculum via online platforms, we know the importance of enabling and establishing a daily habit of learning for our children and know parent's value the school's support in providing guidance, tasks and feedback.

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?

- In the first instance, pupils will be sent home with work to complete or sent via email from the class teacher. After this, families can expect daily information on learning via their year group Padlet (online interface/dashboard to store remote learning) or EvidenceMe.
- The class teacher will continue to update children and families, both at home and on-site, with learning each day via the year group Padlet/EvidenceMe.
- Parents should submit work using class emails or EvidenceMe so that feedback can be provided.

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, our PE and Science curriculum all have practical elements and resources which can't necessarily be replicated at home. In these cases we will make appropriate adjustments with the aim that the learning goal remains as close to those as would be taught in schools.

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:

- 3 hours a day for children in Years 1 and 2, and
- 4 hours a day for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

It should be noted that these suggested times are an average across the cohort. We know that this will be difficult to sustain for some families and, indeed, for some individual children without sustained adult support. For example, for our youngest students remote learning will be practical and play based in nature, not just viewing taught lessons on screen.

Our youngest children will benefit from short bursts of learning, reading and phonics, whereas our eldest children are likely to sustain at least 4 hours of lessons or teacher directed activity. Nursery and Reception age children will have a tailored approach to their

learning, building on the Early Years framework, which will be accessed through EvidenceMe.

Accessing remote education

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

All pre-recorded lessons and live sessions will be accessible via a laptop, iPad or smart phone and will adhere to the Live Streaming Agreement. There are two main sources of information:

1. We have set up our online remote education using online dashboards called Padlet/EvidenceMe (these links will be sent to you via email). Here you will find a suggested programme of learning events for each day, complete with links to a range of resources including pre-recorded lessons.
2. Secure links to live/interactive sessions will be sent via email. This email will also be used to receive work, send feedback and offer any individual support required.

As in-line with normal academy practice, we would appreciate you reading with your child at home on a daily basis to support their enjoyment and development of reading.

Children in years 1 to 6 will also have access to a range of supplementary material, which will be stored under *Useful Links*, on the year group Padlet. This will include academy specific paid subscriptions e.g. Phonics Play, Oxford Owl, Collins Connect, Accelerated Reader, TTRS, White Rose mathematics, to name a few.

The academy also signposts children and families to, for example, the following websites as part of its remote education programme:

- The Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy>
- The BBC learning platform www.bbc.co.uk

In addition, optional supplementary learning activities and experiences will be made available in order to further enhance children's learning experiences; these again can be located under the *Useful Links* section.

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:

- Should parents or carers need information about how we can support families with lending laptops to pupils, or access to the internet via data, they should contact the academy office by emailing milton@learningvillage.org.uk or by telephoning 01782234780.
- If pupils need any printed materials, parents should email the class teacher or call 01782234780. We will try to work with families to set them up remotely by loaning a device in the first instance.
- If pupils do not have online access, in the first instance please contact the academy office and we will try to offer data support. If this cannot be achieved, completed work can be passed to teachers by dropping off work to the academy gates. Families should call or email ahead to arrange this visit.
- Activities are carefully considered and planned by teachers to ensure a printer at home is not a requirement. We will also support with any stationery requirements.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers, White Rose recorded lessons or Oak National Academy lesson)
- live learning workshops where staff help solve pupil questions or misconceptions. Ahead of these sessions, parents will be emailed invitations to live streaming meetings by the class teacher
- access to sites we subscribe to
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- some focussed short-term project work and/or internet research activities when applicable and pupils have the necessary skills to complete such tasks
- live class gatherings to support with personal wellbeing and to enable pupils to stay connected with the academy and their peers
- Teachers will also be sharing stories with their classes on a regular basis to support reading development and love of reading.

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 trustees and senior leadership are fully aware that these are exceptional times and would like to make it clear this document seeks to inform and guide families and not impose expectations. Each family is unique and because of this, should approach remote learning in a way which suits their individual needs. In addition, we recognise that remote education places pressures on families, especially when adults are also working from home. Please do not add additional stress to an already challenging situation by feeling your child MUST complete every lesson and activity offered.

In the simplest terms, we ask you to do the best that you can with the time and resources that you have.

The suggested daily programme of learning activities outlined on Padlet can, therefore, be used flexibly to enable pupils and their parents to adjust the length of the learning day in line with wider family commitments, IT accessibility and availability to support pupils with particular tasks.

- We do expect our children to complete the English, Maths and reading/phonics activity daily
- We ask parents to support their children's learning in the best way they can, given the challenges of home learning and working. We expect parents will provide a place to work, a routine, and utilise the support offered by the remote learning teaching team.
- It is recognised that very young pupils are likely to have needs which cannot easily be met in some of the ways described earlier in this document. For such pupils, it is likely that the priority will be progress in early reading. The emphasis on using Oxford Owl and Collins Connect means that our early readers have access to good quality, developmentally appropriate books via the Padlet dashboard.
- We will aim to support parents, carers or other adults at home to continue to support children in their early reading, where appropriate. We will also provide opportunities to practise phonics content; and provide related guidance for supervising adults to ensure that time is used as productively and developmentally as possible.
- Teaching assistants will also be in contact with identified children to hear them read on a regular basis.

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

- Class teachers and teaching assistants will monitor engagement with work and offer extra advice and support where this is low.
- Where engagement is a concern, members of the senior leadership and welfare teams will work alongside families and children to navigate the issues faced. This will include the provision of devices, internet access, paper copies or stationery. If there is a concern, this support will be available on a weekly basis.

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:

- When pupils submit their work to the class email address, they can expect feedback from the remote learning staff team
- Daily feedback will be offered on work that the children have undertaken
- Families should note that feedback on each individual work is time consuming for staff and may therefore not be immediate or offered on the same day the work is submitted
- Teachers will use a range of 'high leverage' tasks, for example, quizzes and pre and post assessment tasks and activities to inform next steps and future planning

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:

- Families with pupils with SEND should expect support from the teacher/teaching assistant who support the pupil each day. Activities will be achievable. Advice and support will also be made via the school's SENCo who can be contacted by emailing milton@learningvillage.org.uk
- On year group Padlets there will be a section for SEN pupils to access. Teachers will contact their SEN pupils to direct them to this area and provide them with the password
- Daily differentiated work will be uploaded to the Padlet for SEN pupils to complete based on need
- Children with EHCPs are categorised as 'vulnerable' and school can offer an on-site place within the critical worker/vulnerable provision
- SENCo has identified pupils who meet the following criteria and offered places based on need:
 - have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance

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 self-isolating, and the rest of the class bubble continues learning in the academy, parents should expect the offer outlined above, using lessons and resources taught in the academy. However, staff will be mainly engaged with the teaching of children in the academy and feedback may be limited.

How do I contact my child's teacher?

Teachers and teaching support assistants will be available via the class email addresses to support children and families with their learning during the standard academy day (8:45am-3:15pm). The email addresses take the following format:

Nursery: mpafs1@learningvillage.org.uk

Reception: mpafs2@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 1: mpa1@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 2: mpa2@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 3: mpa3@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 4: mpa4@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 5: mpa5@learningvillage.org.uk

Year 6: mpa6@learningvillage.org.uk