



Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place so any child who cannot attend school because of COVID-19 does not miss out on their learning. Below is our home learning offer so that parents know what to expect in different scenarios. We have used your feedback to review and improve our offer so thank you for your responses. The children have also contributed to the plan and have helped us organise the learning so it is easier to access and understand.

When will we provide Home Learning?

- If class bubbles have to isolate at home (between 10 and 14 days) as required by Test and Trace.
- If individual pupils have to isolate but they are not, themselves, experiencing symptoms.
- National lockdown for all schools.
- If there is a local lockdown and schools are required by Public Health England to close (unlikely for primary schools).

How to access Home Learning?

- Pupils will have access to home learning via the school VLE (virtual learning environment) on the first day after absence begins. Please let us know if you have no access to home learning or any difficulties with this.

What should you do if your child does not have access to a device, which can access the internet?

Please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Carter and let them know if you will find it hard to access online learning. Class teachers will make every effort to provide hard copies of work set or we can try to organise a device for you to use.

What will be offered?

We will set work, which corresponds with and continues the curriculum work we are doing in school. The pace of learning may differ depending on the content. Staff will provide an activity that corresponds to lessons that would be taught in class each day.

The way in which Home Learning is delivered and the activities set will have to be adapted, depending on the scenarios (see below):

School closures or local lockdown

The full Home Learning offer will apply with an activity provided for lessons that would have taken place each day during the week. Work set will be uploaded to the website in preparation for the day ahead. Some work is daily work and some is more flexible so you can choose when to do this over the week.

Reading (Daily)

Phonics and Spelling (Daily Key stage 1)

English (Daily Key stage 1 and 2)

Maths (Daily Key stage 1 and 2)

Topic -All other curriculum areas. (Activities set which can be organised across the week)

Class 'bubble' isolation Home Learning would be delivered in exactly the same way as Scenario 1.

Individual isolation (e.g. a pupil is required to self-isolate due to Covid-19 or medical advice). In this scenario, the class teacher would be working full-time in school, teaching the rest of the class. Therefore, Home Learning would be delivered in a slightly different way. Teachers will share work at the beginning of the week for the individual/s isolating to complete at home and provide ideas for parents to use for lessons such as PE. We will provide some contact with school where possible by home drop by visits (socially distanced from outside of the home), or work delivery or meet ups via technology or calls. The offer should be broad and balanced just like the usual curriculum and feedback should be daily.

Class teacher is ill. We have prepared three days standalone work so we have work to send home immediately. Other staff will then support home learning or we will use supply staff to support the preparation of work. We will use online curriculum resources more regularly to support the learning in this circumstance, as we need to balance the workload of staff.

Most parents felt that the duration of sessions last time we provided remote learning was just right so we will continue to offer 3 to 4 hours of work daily. This will include indoor and outdoor learning, as we prefer children to be active rather than have too much screen time and know this is important to our parents too.

We will now sometimes record our own teachers providing new learning so parents and children can see the methodology. Sometimes we may use pre prepared videos from other sources.

In full lockdown, we will try to offer at least one live session per week for children to talk about learning. Children can drop into the live session with adults at home monitoring the conversation. Children can talk to their teacher about things they have been learning and provide feedback on learning and any difficulties they encounter. We will use Microsoft Teams for the meetings but colleagues from the music service may use Zoom.

Please note that Home Learning will not be provided for pupils who are absent from school due to other illnesses or reasons other than Covid-19, as it will be assumed that they would be unable to complete any set work. Children who are unwell with Covid-19 symptoms are not expected to complete remote learning tasks.

How should pupils record their work?

Pupils will be given a 'Home Learning' workbook to record the work that they complete during their absence. Parents are encouraged to contact school to request a new exercise book.

Work can be photographed or scanned, and uploaded to the VLE for teachers to give feedback.

Please note children need to return to the piece of work and reopen it to see the teacher comments. We think that this was not made clear during lockdown so children did not always see the work had been reviewed and comments had been made.

We would like an open dialogue between parents, teachers and children so please feel free to converse with the teacher via the VLE so they know how learning is going at home. Teachers can suggest extension activities for more able pupils or modification for children who are finding work tricky.

How will we track pupil's progress during Home Learning?

Teachers will respond to work sent to them via the VLE and we invite parents to send us notes on the activities, children's responses, problems. We hope the system is now familiar to you so we can have a dynamic environment where you communicate with us, and we respond to you and the children. Teachers might also provide opportunities for children working at home to demonstrate their learning e.g. through quizzes or summarising tasks.

E-mail or ring if there are any problems – we would like to ensure these are resolved.

We will structure work so that children:

1. Activate - Think about previous learning and weave their web back to previous learning to help them.
2. Explain – Teachers will explicitly teach the strategies and methodologies children need to help them with new learning and help them to understand when to use them. Our children will know it is when we add to our toolkit for learning
3. Practise – Children then practise strategies and skills to over learn and to develop their ability to do this independently. Children will lock into their learning by developing concentration and will learn to keep on going... even if they make marvellous mistakes.
4. Reflect – Pupils consider the next steps, and how that fits into the big picture.
5. Review – we will then revisit this learning after leaving a gap to see what children have remembered and if they can use and apply this learning.

How will teachers support Learning at home?

The level of support for home learners will depend on which scenario (see above) we are in. In Scenario 1 or 2, the class teacher will plan, deliver and monitor work using a range of strategies. Parents will be encouraged to communicate with the class teachers via the VLE to share information about their child's learning and class teachers will check in with all their pupils each week via a virtual meeting, the VLE or telephone conversation.

In Scenario 3 (individual isolation) class teachers will remain in contact with the absent pupil via the VLE, teams catch up meetings, pop by meetings, mini teaching videos or telephone conversation if their absence continues beyond 3 days. Parents are encouraged to email the office if there is any additional support that they would welcome.

In Scenario 4 (class teacher is ill) support may be provided by a supply teacher (if one is available) or by another member of the school staff. In this scenario, Mrs Carter will share information about who to contact via letter to the year group.

Please let us know if you do not have access to the technology required to access home learning via the VLE and we will make alternative arrangements for you.

What you can do to help?

We appreciate that remote learning presents many challenges and each family's situation is very different. We were very reassured to see the high quality support, which children had after the March closure and hope that this would be possible moving forward if we return to this. We fully understand that it is difficult balancing the many demands lockdown or self-isolation with maintaining good mental health and wellbeing, which rightly are priority. We are available to support in any way we can and will always do whatever we can to ensure children can keep learning and progressing even in the most difficult times.

Our top tips:

Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed for the start of the school day, and to keep to a timetable or routine

Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life

Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you are having any difficulties with remote learning, or if you have any questions. You can contact the class teacher via the VLE or Mrs Carter via admin@johnwilkinson.shropshire.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Carter