



Thomas Johnson Lower School

Dream - Discover - Flourish

Remote Education Provision: information to parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or 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 is expected where individuals are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

Safeguarding note: If you have any concerns about content that your child has accessed, or images you have been made aware of, or concerns about how to keep your child safe from on-line abuse, please speak to:-

Marian Haines (Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Tel: 01525 402377 or 01525 404743 email: mhaines@thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk)

Charlotte Turner (Interim Senior Teacher and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)
email: cturner@thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

What should my child expect from the remote educational package that is sent home?

We aim to support both your child and yourself, as their new teacher! We therefore provide a range of learning activities for you and your child to watch and access at a time that is convenient for you. We expect that you will be on-hand to help and encourage your child with these tasks.

All our main learning uses Google Classroom. We also run a Facebook Challenge for the children to enjoy.

- There are always 4 lessons uploaded each day (pre-school children can select from a choice of activities sent out each week). Wherever possible we upload these the night before, so that you can have time to get any resources ready.
- We also send out a My School Lockdown Day for each child, showing an example timetable to help you structure your day.
- We have included a copy of our Golden Rules and Star Values, as well as smiley face rewards for your child to colour in as they gain rewards from their work and for helping out at home.
- There is a weekly whole class zoom meeting so that children can see their friends and classmates regularly.
- The Senior Leadership Team will also provide parents and carers with regular updates, either through open questions and answer Zoom meetings, or written updates.

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. This follows our Whole School Overview curriculum which is on our website. We have needed to make

some adaptations in some subjects such as PE and music to reflect the resources and space available for you at home.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

We send every parent a timetable to help them structure their Lockdown School Day. **Timings include the time taken to listen to the teacher's input and to submit the work.**

- **Years 1 and 2** (Foxes and Badgers) expect around 15-20 mins engagement on the task itself. On some days it may be more depending on the task and where your child's imagination has led them. Overall, the length of time of their involvement should average around **3 hours a day**.
- **Years 3 and 4** (Owls) expect around 20-30 mins engagement on the task itself. The likelihood is that there will be a variation in things which seem to have a natural end point, and others which can keep going! If this is the case, then go with the flow and "park" other things. Enthusiasm should always be nurtured. Don't feel you have to complete the rest of the day's activities as well - leave them and consider returning to them on a day when you find you have more time. Overall, the length of time of their involvement should average around **4 hours a day**.

Very young children learn differently and should not be expected to sit in front of a screen for long periods of time.

- Nursery and Reception learn through play, so 10 minutes on a task is plenty. Get them using their fingers to build, pull apart, make a string of objects (thread pasta onto wool, string or shoelaces and make necklaces) draw things, colour pictures and try all different ways of sorting objects.

Not all children are engaged by the same thing and in a normal classroom the teachers will adapt the lesson on the spot when they see a child needs support.

- If your child doesn't want to do the task given, feel free to adapt it. (e.g. Instead of writing facts about Trinidad, write some facts about a favourite toy instead).
- If you don't understand what your child is supposed to do, just stop and move onto something else. For example, if you can't remember what a triangular prism is abandon that task and google one of the key words with your child and learn about that together.
- If things don't seem to be working at all, and tempers are rising, stop everything and do something else (see below)

Emergency alternatives:

- Read a story to them and talk about it together
- Listen to them read (whatever age - even free readers).
- Times tables rockstar
- Sort things (lego into colours, pencils into a rainbow, books into "sets")
- Make a dried pasta picture of something related to the topic you are learning about. You don't have to glue it down, just arrange it on a table and take a photo.
- Encourage handwriting by copying a sentence or two. "*The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog*" uses every letter in the alphabet. Copy a poem or a page from your reading book.
- Google something you both don't understand - there may be another video you can watch that helps explain it for you.
- Draw a picture linked to the task and give it some labels.
- Hangman (great for spelling)
- Play a game with a dice (establishes skills of sharing, turn taking, winning and losing. Remember losing is a key life-skill and one that we have to learn, however hard it may seem).
- Complete a puzzle
- Build something with lego which links to the topic in some way.

Accessing remote education

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

Google Classroom www.googleclassroom.com/ is our main platform and consists of daily lessons that are set by class teachers and are marked each day. These are available for all pupils and include lessons which the teacher has made a video of, powerpoints, links to other learning, worksheets and activities.

General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Academy www.thenational.academy/ 	Suite of video lessons including resources to cover the primary curriculum
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Times Tables Rockstars www.trockstars.com/ 	Our game-based platform for developing fluency with times tables and division facts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple Mash www.purplemash.com/ 	A suite of resources which include multiplication games and shape recognition amongst other activities. Children can use their own school account login
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Rose whiterosemaths.com/ 	Online maths resources
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxford Reading Tree www.oxfordowl.co.uk/ 	Online books which follow our School's Reading Scheme
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonics www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ 	Phonics games to play which include real and non-words. Games are in phases to suit different year groups and abilities.

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 will lend laptops or tablets to pupils where your child has no suitable device to access the Google Classroom.
- We will lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles)
- Printed materials can be collected daily if you do not have a printer. We always give an alternative task which does not need you to print out a worksheet or similar. Some worksheets can be completed online, without the need for printing.

In all cases, please contact Ms Helen Barron (07724 181661 or 01525 402377) by phone or email (hbarron@thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk) so that we can help support you better.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

For pupils in Years R-4, lessons include

- At least two daily pre-recorded lesson videos with one of our class teachers introducing and teaching the lesson, and explaining the task your child needs to complete. They may model this on a whiteboard or with physical objects. The teacher may read over a powerpoint (a slide show) and explain the learning as they go along.
- A youtube link (or similar) which teaches the lesson and a written link to explain how your child should complete the work.

- A powerpoint slide show which takes you through the lesson and explains the task for completion.
- Regular storytimes are also part of the week, with pre-recorded videos of a staff member reading out stories for your child to enjoy at a time suitable to you.
- Reading books at home: either online (Oxford Owl) or a physical copy which is changed fortnightly.
- Spellings
- Homework bingo - optional

Children will complete a task by:

- writing/drawing on a piece of plain or lined paper as appropriate
- completing a worksheet on-line or by printing off
- using resources found at home (e.g. scales and food items in a mathematics lesson)
- using resources supplied by the school (e.g. felt to make puppets)
- following directions (e.g. PE)
- reading to a family member

Work can be submitted for marking and feedback by:

- uploading the completed piece onto Google Classroom
- sending a photo to the class teacher as an email message.
- returning the work to school (by arrangement)

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?

If your child is well we expect them to complete work daily and engage with the Google Classroom work that is set, as well as the weekly zoom meetings to meet friends.

All our children will need some support from parents and carers. Part of this support will be by encouraging your child to follow a simple routine which ensures that they are up and dressed in the morning, and ready to complete their work. Our age-related timetables should act as a guide to help you plan your child's school day.

All children will need help to start on the Google Classroom tasks, and your child may need encouragement if they find an aspect of the work tricky.

We still expect daily reading to be part of your school week.

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

The teacher can see on their Google Classroom account when work has been set (assigned) and when it has been completed (handed in). The class teacher monitors this each week.

From week 3 of lockdown, a staff member will contact you to check that all is well and you have everything you need to complete the tasks. This is a good opportunity for you to discuss any concerns you may have. These phone calls will generally be given weekly.

It is vital that your child does not fall behind in their learning. If your child is not completing the work we will be in contact with you to find out how we can help with any problems you may have. We will discuss with you the concerns that we have. Your child may be given the opportunity to attend school if they are struggling to complete the work at home.

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:

- The teacher will acknowledge each piece of work with a comment or smiley face (this means your child can colour in a square on their achievement record.)
- The teacher will suggest a way of improving the work. Your child should try to do this improvement in their next piece of work.
- Work will be marked the same day.

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

- We may issue a printed workbook or worksheets for pupils with SEND
- Pre-school children will be given a weekly choice of activities so that parents and carers can choose how often and when they wish to do an activity with their child.
- Reception pupils will be offered a greater number of practical tasks

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

If your child is self-isolating because they are showing symptoms of coronavirus and are awaiting test results or have been in close contact with a positive case, then the likelihood is that the rest of their class bubble is still in school. If this is the case the class teacher will be teaching the rest of the class full-time, and therefore a reduced remote education package is available.

If your child is self-isolating and they are unwell, we do not expect them to carry out any work until they are fully recovered. You may want to read a daily story to them at this time..

If a child is self-isolating because they are waiting for results, your child should access the activities shown on page 3.

If your child is self-isolating for a longer period of time, they will have access to our reduced remote education package. This will involve an English and Maths activity and at least one other activity. All of these follow the curriculum covered in class. Remote teaching approaches will be a mixture of :

- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- A powerpoint which takes you through the lesson and explains the task for completion.
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons,)

Feedback will be given when the work is completed and returned.