

St Margaret's Church of England Primary School



Remote Learning Plan – Version Two (updated March 2021)

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 to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: What is taught at home to pupils?

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 in the first day or two of being sent home?

In the event of a school bubble needing to self-isolate, or a national closure, pupils will be directed to the Oak National Academy website for the first full day whilst the teachers move their planned lessons online. After this, pupils will access learning planned by their teacher through Google Classroom.

After this period, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

In the event of a bubble closure we teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school for most subjects. There are some exceptions, for instance where P.E is taught by a sports coach or where specialist equipment is needed for a particular session e.g. music, art, design technology. We would endeavour to catch up on these sessions once pupils return to school. In the event of a national lockdown we teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect the 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 -4 hours each day. Each day they will have a planned Maths and English lesson. In addition to this they will have lessons from 1 or 2 other subjects depending on the length of the task.

Accessing remote education

How will my child access online remote education?

In Key Stage Two we are using a Virtual Learning Environment called Google Classroom. Children in these year groups are familiar with how to use the online classroom. Should you require any assistance in helping them do so or have any queries please contact the school office on office@stmargaretsoldham.net. In Key

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Stage One and Early Years, we use Class Dojo as our online classroom. Some classes may also need to access websites such as *Read Theory*, *Spelling Shed* or *Lexia* for example. The children have personal log in details for these. If children are unsure of their log in details, please contact the school office on the email above.

If my child does not have access to a device and/or the internet at home how will you help them?

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:

The school have a bank of Chromebooks that can be loaned by families where needed. We regularly ask families to keep us updated about their IT needs so that in the event of a closure we can organise devices quickly. Any family who needs to loan a Chromebook can contact the school office (office@stmargaretsoldham.net or 0161 770 5900). If families require more information they should contact the school office immediately.

Devices will need to be collected and signed for and returned to school once the closure has ended.

Similarly, where families do not have access to the internet they should contact school and we will do our best to offer advice and support.

There are some cases where a pupil will need to access printed materials. We have been able to keep this to a minimum as we would like all children to be part of our online learning environment. Without access to online learning they are not able to view the lessons that have been recorded or speak easily to their teacher. We also use the class stream when pupils can discuss their work with other pupils in their class. In these cases, we make individual arrangements with each family about the delivery/collection of paper copies of work and make individual plans about how this work will be marked. In some cases, parents/carers prefer to take photographs of completed work and send it in or, in other cases, they prefer to give the work back on a regular basis for marking.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Children will still cover a broad curriculum during a period of remote education. Each day teachers will publish a timetable. The timetable will show which lessons are being covered that day and what they will need to do.

For each lesson there will be a teaching element and tasks to complete.

Teachers are using a wide range of high quality resources to plan lessons. For most lessons there will be some recorded content and this can take many forms:

- Some lessons are pre-recorded videos of school staff delivering the lesson content
- Some lessons are presentations with a voice over recorded by the teacher
- Some lessons have video content that has been recorded by a reputable outside organisation. Examples include White Rose for Maths, The Training Space (the Write Stuff) for English, Dream Big (external PE partner) and National Oak Academy.
- There will be daily live lessons in Key Stage Two to supplement the recorded content and weekly check in sessions for children in EYFS and Key Stage One.

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Each lesson will also have a task or tasks to complete and these will most likely be on Google Docs or Google Slides which all children can access through Google Classroom. For KS1 and EYFS children tasks will usually be completed in the child's home learning book (blank exercise book given by school) and we ask that photographs are taken of work completed to allow teachers to monitor progress and provide feedback via the portfolios section. They can complete most tasks electronically if they choose to, or on paper if they prefer. We have designed tasks that do not need to be printed but there are some activities where inevitably children will need access to paper, pens etc. If required, packs of stationery can be collected from the school office.

Very occasionally, children might be asked to complete a longer research activity in readiness for a project.

All parents have been sent details of how to access reading books virtually so that children can continue to practise daily reading. Children who have a home/school banded reading book can continue to read books at the correct level using the Oxford Owl website.

Children who are free readers can use the Oak National Academy Library Service. All children are also encouraged to read or listen to eBooks for pleasure and again they can access a wide variety of texts through the local library online service. Most classes also plan daily reading in the Google Classroom. If parents require more information or support about accessing eBooks they should contact the school office.

Engagement and Feedback

What are the school's expectations in terms of pupil engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We appreciate that all families are under a lot of different stresses and pressures and that many families have more than one child to support with their online education as well as their own work.

We expect pupils to access their work daily and strongly recommend that families set up a timetable to include this around their commitments. We anticipate that the tasks set will take between 3 and 4 hours per day. We know that our younger pupils in particular will need support, especially at first, with the technology and we ask for parents' assistance with this. We would hope that all children can complete at least some part of each session independently.

The teachers are online everyday between 9am and 3pm to answer any children's questions. We do recognise that all family circumstances are different and that not all children can access work at exactly the same time which is why the majority of content is pre-recorded.

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

Teachers are constantly checking pupil's engagement. Through Google Classroom and Class Dojo we can see who has opened their work and we ask for some work to be submitted/turned in for marking and a record of this is kept.

In rare circumstances, for personal reasons, some pupils work on a paper based curriculum and individual arrangements are made with these families in terms of returning work.

Where we have a concern that a child is not accessing remote education the school will telephone parents. We will also telephone all families at least once per fortnight to talk about their child's wellbeing and mental health. This is also an opportunity for parents or school to raise any concerns about their work.

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 are able to assess and feedback on individual pupils' work using Google Classroom/Class Dojo.

Each week children will be asked to submit/turn in a number of pieces of work and this work is marked by the teacher. There are different ways that teachers can leave feedback and comments on children's work.

1. Highlighting – Children may find that their teacher has highlighted their work. This is similar to the way we give feedback in school. Answers/work highlighted in green means that it is correct. Answers/work highlighted in pink means it needs to be checked.
2. Written comments – Your child may receive written comments in the margin of their document which relate to specific parts of their work.
3. Private comments – Before opening the work to see the feedback there may be a comment written by the teacher.

Once work has been marked it is returned by the teacher and the pupil can view the teachers marking and feedback. They can also resubmit work if they need to make corrections.

Pupils will receive feedback on all work that teachers ask to be submitted/turned in. Pupils may also be asked to complete work that is marked automatically via digital platforms and this feedback is also sent to teachers so they can assess progress. Pupils are able to re-submit after they have edited or amended following teacher's comments. Feedback for children in EYFS and KS1 will take the form of comments on children's individual portfolios.

Additional Support for children with particular needs

What provision is in place to help me and my child who needs additional support to access remote learning?

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:

Some children will be part of an intervention classroom for some or all of their work. Work will be set out in exactly the same way as the other classrooms but the lessons will be tailored to the needs of that child/group of children. Where they are able, they will be encouraged to access lessons with the rest of their class.

For a minority of pupils, we recognise that an online learning platform is not an effective way for them to complete work. We provide paper packs of work that include hands on activities and games for these children and this is discussed with families on an individual basis.

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.

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

Where individual households are isolating pupils will be directed to the Oak National Academy website where they will follow the timetable for their year group. In the case of pupils not being able to access work at the appropriate year group level we provide parents with a personalised plan of which subjects to access at which level. Staff will contact these families to speak to parents and the child about their work. They will also ask for feedback on the tasks completed.