



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic school, God is at the heart of all we do. We believe that each person is made in His image, deserving to be treated with respect and dignity.

Showing respect, love and care for everyone and everything, we aim to develop harmony between pupils, parents, carers, the school and Parish and grow as a Christian community.

Pupils will share in God's love, whilst receiving a broad and balanced education. We aim to enable each individual to realise their full potential, spiritually, academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

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. There are also details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating later in this document.

School Website: <https://st-thomas-more.secure-primariesite.net/>

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?

Your child should read for 15 minutes every day, practise their handwriting (the Letter Join log in is on the home learning page of the school website) and learn their spellings (which are on all class pages on the school website and in children's homework books). Teachers also upload a recorded Maths and English lesson every day for their class on to the school website, along with any supporting documents. Please use the whole school Termly Mat to complete a foundation subject task.

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 same curriculum is taught both in school and remotely. However, we have made some adaptations to some subjects to provide a more appropriate lesson for use at home. An example of this is seen in our PE curriculum. During lockdown lessons are not in-line with our "Cogs of Development" which are normally taught in our Real PE curriculum. Therefore, we have broadened our focus in lessons, but our expectation is still two hours of physical activity a week. Another example is the teaching of Science where we have had adjust the sequence of units to a different time of year to provide more suitable lessons to remote learning during lockdown.

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 the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 1	3 Hours
Key Stage 2	4 Hours

Accessing remote education

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

- Using the St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Website, select “Key Information” and then “Home Learning” and select your child’s year group. You will find all the remote education for your child.
- Individual recorded videos of daily Maths and English lessons will be uploaded every day on to Class Dojo.
- There is a link to Oak Academy on each class page to lessons chosen by the class teachers to support home learning for Science, Geography and Computing.
- There are also links to other educational websites for your children to use, e.g. Mathletics, BBC Bitesize, etc.

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. Therefore, we take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- Printed learning packs will be available every week for any pupil who is not able to access the home learning on our school website. Parents/carers of pupils will be able to collect these learning packs after 12 pm on a Monday from the School Office.
- The printed learning packs will contain copies of the PowerPoint slides and supporting documents that can be found on the school website. If there are any lessons that are solely online (e.g. Oak Academy Lessons, alternative learning activities will be provided in the printed packs for pupils without internet access).
- Pupils must submit work to their teachers through Class Dojo, or to the teacher's e-mail address (this can be found on the home learning page of the school website). Once pupils have completed the work from their printed learning pack, the work should be submitted to the class teacher for marking and feedback. This can be returned to the School Office when collecting the following week's learning pack. The School Office is open between 8:30 am and 3:15 pm.
- We will issue or lend laptops to some pupils, parents or carers of selected pupils that meet the St Thomas More Criteria for this will be contacted by the school as soon as possible.

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 are:

- Recorded videos by the class teacher of daily English and Maths lessons will be published on Class Dojo each day.
- Pre-recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons) for subjects including Geography, Science and Computing.
- Printed learning packs produced weekly by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets).
- Home reading books.
- Educational websites which support the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences. Web addresses and links will be put in the weekly learning plans and are also listed on the school website.

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?

- Children or their parents should check-in with their class teachers on a daily basis, to register their attendance and engagement of learning.
- We expect completed work to be submitted for marking and feedback. Work completed online should be submitted to the class teacher daily, however weekly learning packs should be submitted weekly when collecting the next week's pack.
- Parents are requested to support their children as and when necessary. They can contact the class teacher for further support should this be required.
- It is important to set a daily routine that broadly follows the suggested timetable set by class teachers on the home learning section of the website.

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

- Class teachers will respond to all work submitted, either through Class Dojo or email.
- If there are any concerns, in the first instance, class teachers will message on Class Dojo or will call you between 1 pm and 3:15 pm.
- You may also be contacted by the school's SENDCO (Special Needs Co-ordinator) or by one of our pastoral team.

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:

- Class teachers will mark and respond to work submitted daily on Class Dojo or by email.
- Feedback may include praise, comments for improvement or further support and guidance on how to correct any misconceptions and errors.

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 will offer support through teacher feedback, 1:1 telephone support from the SENDCO and extra resources if needed.
- We will ensure all SEND pupils who are not attending school will have access to extra resources specific to their learning needs, which will enable them to access their home learning.
- We will assess the individual needs of every SEND pupil to ensure that they have access to work that is at their level to prevent any demotivation.
- A set of alternative activities may be offered for children with SEMH targets to enable them to make progress with their My Plan targets.

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?

For self-isolating pupils who are well enough to complete school tasks, the class teacher will upload learning for the day on the school website by 1 pm. This will be found under their year group in the “Home Learning” section of the school website.

Learning will be set for the day and include an English and Maths lesson and two further foundation subjects. This learning will in most cases be the same curriculum taught in school on that day. Work completed will need to be submitted either through Class Dojo or by an email to the class teacher. Teachers will respond to any learning sent in before the start of the next academic day.