



MERRYLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Remote Education Provision

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents/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 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?

Work relevant to the year group will be uploaded to Tapestry / Google Classroom. Lessons will not necessarily be recorded lessons from the teacher as these will need to be prepared for. Time will be needed to support families with setting up the passwords and trouble shooting. Work will be uploaded throughout the day, but it will be a limited offer.

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 needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example some creative lessons which require a great deal of equipment will not be set for home learning. We do not expect parents to be providing lots of resources to complete remote learning tasks.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

The minimum requirements set by the DfE are:

- 3 hours a day for KS1 (Years 1 and 2 when pupils are aged between 5 and 7)
- 4 hours a day for KS2 (Years 3-6 when children are aged between 7 and 11)

Those hours include both direct teaching and time for pupils to complete tasks or assignments independently.

Accessing remote education

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

Passwords and usernames have been sent via Seesaw, Tapestry and/or Parent Mail. If you require these details, then please email admin@merriands-pri.essex.sch.uk or email the class teacher via Seesaw/Tapestry

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:

- the school can request a router to be installed
- the school has been allocated several laptops. These will be offered to disadvantaged families first. We will then follow a particular criterion as well as look at requests from families on a case-by-case basis
- families can have access to printed home learning packs and must inform the class teacher or email admin. These can be collected from the main office on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Arrangements can be made if these times are not suitable
- if a family are self-isolating, for example, then the Home Learning packs will be delivered
- printed Home Learning packs returned to the school will be marked by a member of the year group team

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- live teaching (online lessons/flipped learning) to provide feedback, motivate, support with strategies and model – for EYFS and KS1 this will be an opportunity to share work that has been completed, to read a story and to take part in a year group appropriate activity. For KS2 we will be offering twice-daily support sessions to help the children with the tasks set on Google Classroom
- Oxford Owl Online Reading
- printed paper packs produced by teachers
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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?

Where possible, it is beneficial for young people to maintain a regular and familiar routine. Merrylands Primary School and Nursery would recommend that each 'school day' maintains structure.

We would encourage parents to support their children's work, including finding an appropriate place to work and, to the best of their ability, support pupils and encourage them to work with good levels of concentration.

Every effort will be made by staff to ensure that work is set promptly. Should accessing work be an issue, parents should contact school promptly and alternative solutions may be available. These will be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

All children sign an 'Acceptable Use Policy' at school which includes e-safety rules, and this applies when children are working on computers at home.

An additional AUP policy will need to be signed by both pupils and parent to access live sessions.

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

- teachers (or other members of staff) will be calling on a regular basis and establishing that learning is being completed at home and give support where required
- parents can also email the class teacher for support and is another means for teachers to know the child is engaging

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:

- English and Maths will be marked daily and all other areas of the curriculum by the end of the week. Comments will be made via the piece of work on Google Classroom/Tapestry which the child is able to access
- feedback will be given through the live support sessions. This may be by discussing misconceptions, giving positive praise, and sharing work

Additional support for pupils with 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/carers to support those pupils in the following ways:

- differentiated and additional, specific tasks and resources provided
- regular contact with class teacher and SENCo
- access to live sessions
- more practical activities to engage children in EYFS and Year 1

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 the school is open, the child's remote learning will be set on Seesaw rather than Google Classroom
- EYFS/Year 1 work will continue to be set on Tapestry
- instructions for tasks will be through written explanation or a PowerPoint rather than video/audio recording
- feedback on completed work will be provided via comments on Seesaw/Tapestry