

The JOY of The Lord is Your Strength (Nehemiah 8:10)

Remote Learning at St. John's CE Primary School

The COVID-19 pandemic has required huge changes in the provision of learning opportunities for children all over the world including those at St. John's. Periods of extended lockdown have meant that school has been closed to children except any deemed as vulnerable or children of key (critical) workers.

To ensure that learning continues as 'normally' as possible for every child during lockdown, the requirement for remote learning to match the curriculum taught in school is now in place. This will no doubt create a raft of questions and concerns from parents whose children remain at home until school resumes. This document is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education at St. John's where national or local restrictions require children to remain at home.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

At St. John's we follow the same curriculum in school as is set remotely. The timetables for each week are published online for parents and children to access. We have been using the same format since the first lockdown which parents and children should be used to following.

What happens immediately?

At the beginning of any new lockdown period (especially if announcements are sudden) the curriculum offer may look a little different with some more generic activities set for each class; this will allow time for timetables to be published and resources prepared. Information will be provided to parents via Class Dojo with any work uploaded to the Home Learning tab on our website.

What happens after the first few days?

Formal timetables are in place, published to parents via Class Dojo and uploaded to the website along with the resources and links required to complete the work. Beyond the first few days, our aim is to upload all timetables and resources to the website by 9 am on Monday morning with any requested packs printed and ready for pick-up at the same time from the office.

What does the remote curriculum look like?

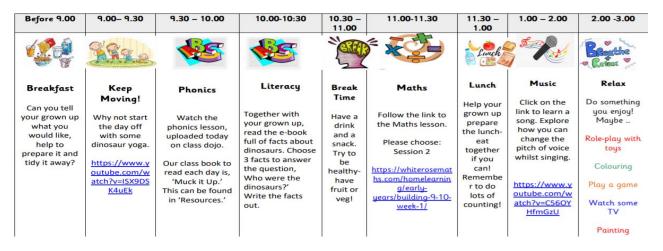
The remote curriculum is broadly the same as that taught in school. Whilst the learning objectives set are often the same it may not always be possible for work to be set in the same format and there may be necessary alterations or simplifications between the curriculum taught in school and set for home. An example here may be art where children may not have the specific art resources required at home to complete the same task as in school. By following broadly the same curriculum timetable in school and at home, this allows children who may not attend full-time key worker provision to keep on track with the rest of their class and not miss any vital learning.

Remote teaching and study time each day

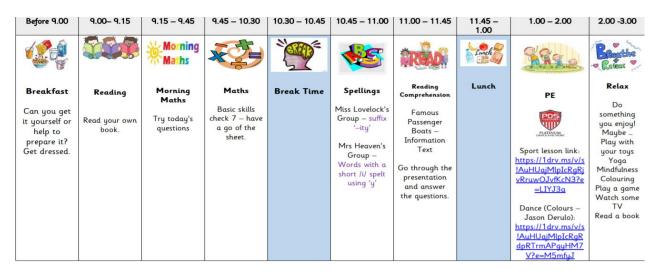
Our timetables for remote learning follow the same times as the school day with activities planned throughout. The government have outlined minimum expectations for how long children should be remotely learning each day. In Reception and Key Stage 1 this is set at 3 hours a day, with 4 hours a day the expectation in Years 3-6.

Our timetables follow the same format each week with the day split into different lessons and activities. Times match up remotely and in school throughout the day but obviously there is fluidity to complete work at home at any time and in any order! Where it may be playtime or lunchtime in school example activities are provided for remote learning still. An example of a remote learning day may look like this:

Reception:



Year 5:



Accessing remote education

All timetables and resources are uploaded by individual teachers to our school website by 9 am on the first day of the school week. They can be found by clicking on the 'Classes' tab, followed by your child's class and then clicking on the Home Learning tab at the top of the class page. There is also a Home Learning tab on the Homepage which will take you directly to the same location (but you don't get to see what else is happening in your child's class!)

Additionally, teachers add a weblink to their class story on Class Dojo which will then take parents and children directly to the necessary information.

At set times, teachers will use Google Meet with members of their class working remotely. These times are published in advance with specific children invited each time.

For any communication between home and school, we recommend the use of Class Dojo for the quickest response as teachers are utilising this platform throughout the day.

How will we support children to access remote education?

We have been utilising the same format for remote learning through all lockdown periods so hopefully the layout should be familiar. Remote content can be accessed on any device with internet though some lessons/activities are best using a PC or laptop.

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 are happy to print any resources you may require for the week if you do not have a printer / do
 not wish to print at home. Please let class teachers know in advance and these will either be left for
 you in the foyer to collect whilst exercising or we can agree the best way to get the resources to you.
- If you do not have sufficient or suitable internet capable devices at home for your child / children, then we have a number of devices in school which we are happy to lend to pupils. Currently we have a selection of laptops and tablets available if required. If this support would be beneficial, please contact us in school as soon as possible and we can make the necessary arrangements.
- If you have the devices but insufficient internet data to complete learning, then the government has put in place support schemes for families which school can access. Please contact us for further information.
- Children are able to submit any work via Class Dojo and Google Classroom as appropriate. Digitally, it is also possible to email work to enquiries@stjohnsprimary.co.uk. For any paper-based work, we are happy for this to be sent into school / handed in to the office but there will be a short quarantine period before teachers will look at any physical work.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- A timetable for each class each week which is uploaded to Class Dojo and our school website. The
 work set each week matches what would usually be taught in the curriculum at this time of year as
 much as possible.
- Resources to accompany the timetables are uploaded to the school website. Packs are printed upon request. There is likely to be a mixture of weblinks leading to online activities and paper-based activities.
- Teachers may upload guides on videos to explain content. Any uploads take place through Class Dojo. Teachers will also post videos of themselves reading class novels.
- Google Meet will be used regularly for teachers to check in with children and for the class to socialise. Invites will be sent via Class Dojo and Google Classroom and attendance is optional.

- Collective worship / assembly will be uploaded twice a week for parents and children to share together at home.

Engagement, feedback and assessment

At St. John's we want every child to feel an integral part of our school even though we cannot be together in person. We appreciate that children working from home may not follow the same working pattern as in school but want everyone involved during the week at some point.

Teachers keep a record of engagement from pupils which is reviewed regularly and passed to our senior leadership team. Engagement includes (but is not limited to) viewing posts, submitting work online, messaging teachers, requesting and collecting packs.

Should teachers be worried about the level of engagement in remote learning from any pupil, then they will refer to our Learning Mentor, Mrs Maxwell, who will attempt to make contact and offer any support if required. There are some top tips for parents when supporting their child's learning located in the Home Learning section of the website. However, if struggling with remote education in any way, we ask you to get in touch as we are all learning together!

Teachers feedback on any online work through Class Dojo. If children pass in hard copies of work, teachers will mark (after the work has been quarantined) and feedback electronically as required. Throughout the week teachers will set activities and small quizzes which will test the understanding of the children as they complete their work.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs

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:

- Providing bespoke work for specific children: this may be planned by 1:1 TA's if applicable.
- Technological support.
- More regular check-ups with children and families. Our SENDCO, Mrs Preston, regularly checks in with the families of children on our SEND register.
- Possible invitations into school either part-time or full-time.

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. In this instance:

 Where possible, work set at home would be the same as that taught in school. There may be some changes due to, for example resources available, and in these cases alternative activities would be provided.

- Increased opportunities for children to 'Zoom' into school life. This may include during lessons so that children are an active part of learning. However, this form of interaction will most likely take place in small groups to allow socialisation as well as work.
- Increased check-ins from our Learning Mentor or other designated member of staff.

Any remote provision we put in place at St. John's is reviewed regularly and we are always on the lookout for ways in which our offer can be improved. The wellbeing of our pupils is paramount and we want to make sure that they are both making academic progress and mixing socially during any period of absence from school.