

Remote Education at St John's CE Middle School Academy

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.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

St John's Middle School will be teaching the same curriculum remotely as we do in school. The curriculum is managed by leaders within the school. We are working collaboratively across the school within The Spire School Academy trust to learn from each other and ensure we are providing the best learning opportunities we can for our pupils during the National Lockdown.

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

The pupils should follow their normal school timetable at home, either attending live zoom lessons or completing the tasks set for them by their teachers on Epraise.

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

We will use a number of platforms to support remote education for all year groups. The main platforms that the pupils will use is Zoom to attend live lessons and Epraise to access the links for lessons and to access task set and to submit work to their teachers.

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:

- Where we have been able to we have borrowed laptops to pupils who do not have a digital device at home. We have already identified and made contact with these families.
- Please be aware the due to shortages in devices across the world there is significant delay with delivery, including those from the DfE.
- We will continue to work with families who do not have access to the have access to the teaching resources they need in order to ensure your child's education continues whilst learning remotely.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, RE, PSCHÉ and French will be taught via Zoom.
- Work will be set for all other subjects within the planner section of Epraise.
- Pupils will be Epraised Zoom links by their subject teachers.
- Lessons will begin at their usual timetabled times, but please allow some flexibility as staff may be moving from room to room and will need to set up their devices.
- Pupils will be asked to submit work which is produced during Zoom lessons, this may be electronically or physically when they return.
- All pupils have been shown how to access their timetable and Zoom using the link provided via Epraise. Your child's timetable and planner can also be seen via your parental login.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We expect, where possible, for your child to attend all of their live lessons and respond to any tasks set for them on Epraise. We understand that there may be some factors at home that act as barrier to this happening. We ask that you work with us and communicate with teachers about any barriers you may be facing. Registers are taken at the start of each zoom lesson and we do track the children's engagement in learning.

We ask that parents encourage their children to engage in the activities set and log in their parent account where possible to see how much their child is engaging in with the work being set by teachers. We suggest you support your child by having a regular routine as we would during a normal school day including breaks and time outside where possible.

We would really like the pupils to keep their cameras on during live lessons, this makes it much easier for us to monitor their engagement.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Feedback can take many different forms. Our remote offer of teaching live lessons means that the pupils are getting regular feedback from their teachers. Feedback will not always be in the form of an extensive individual comment. Teachers will give feedback to pupils in a number of ways:

- Individual feedback comments - where a pupil is requested to upload or submit a piece of work they will receive an individual feedback comment.
- Whole class feedback - The teacher will give some generic feedback on how well they have completed a task, possibly followed by the children writing down the targets that apply to them and spending some time improving their work.

- Low stakes quiz/ tests - They may be asked to complete a quiz via Epraise or possibly another external provider such as Kerboodle. This could be in the form of a start of lesson recap, a spellings test, or it could be at the end of a topic to help teachers identify any gaps in learning. Quizzes marked automatically will ensure we can assess pupil progress.
- D.I.R.T (Dedicated improvement and reflection time) - At school we call this “green pen time”. The pupils should be familiar with this term. If they have received feedback and have been set targets, we would expect them to go back to that piece of work and make improvements or add detail in a green (or another colour if you don’t have green).
- Pupils asked to share their work – teachers may guide pupils to reflect on the quality of each other’s work, considering strengths and targets for further improvement.

We have written to parents separately regarding our feedback policy and to guide pupils on how they should access their individual feedback from their teachers.

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:

Accessing technology

- Where a student has no technology this has been lent to them.
- Where students have struggled with accessing lessons via zoom, members of staff have supported virtually

Accessing remote work

- As all lessons are zoomed all lessons are adapted to the needs of students as usual.
- Where we note students with SEND have not attended through monitoring this has been followed up if needed.
- For none Zoomed lessons accessible work is set for each group.

Ensuring EHCP obligations are met

- All students with EHCP are invited into school, where this is not possible due to medical reasons or self-isolation will be supported by their key adults in school via technology as needed.

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 be similar to those in school. For English, Maths and Science, teachers will zoom lessons to pupils who are self-isolating. For other subjects they will be set work on Epraise, submit work and receive individual feedback from their teachers.