



With God nothing is impossible – Luke 1:37
You are the light of the world – Matthew 5: 3

St Matthew's C.E. Primary School

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to children and parents or carers about what to expect from our remote education, if local/national restrictions require the whole school, year groups (or bubbles) to remain at home.

1. The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

Children are immediately provided with recorded lessons and assignments from their teachers, via Google Classroom and their Home Learning Booklets. There are also additional resources on the remote learning section and on our school website.

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 whenever appropriate. However, we will need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, Maths or Phonics lessons may at times place greater emphasis on consolidation and revision of key concepts already taught, than on introducing new concepts. This is to ensure that all children are able to access the work. We will also ensure that there is time away from the screen, throughout the day.

2. 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: 3- 4 hours, depending on how quickly the children work.



3. Accessing remote education

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

St Matthew's uses Google Classroom as the primary platform for delivering lessons and setting tasks. However, your child may be directed to other websites and resources, where this is appropriate.

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 children may not have suitable online access at home. **We have taken the following approaches to support access remote education:**

- We have done our best to ensure that every family has at least one device for access to remote learning, by lending out laptops or tablets set up to access the Internet. **Please note: we don't have the resources to supply a device for every child. If your family have no device from which to access home learning, please contact the St Matthew's School Office, on 0121 359 1602.**
- If your Internet access is poor or disconnected, there is a government scheme to provide unlimited data in order to enable access via a mobile phone. **If this is a concern, please contact the St Matthew's School Office on 0121 359 1602.**

How will pupils submit work to their teachers if they do not have online access?

Workbooks have been provided to all children, alongside a stationery pack, to enable them to access to paper-based schoolwork. We will quickly work towards getting online access for those families that do not have it, so that work can be submitted.

How will my child be taught remotely?

St Matthew's will deliver the curriculum through a blended approach including, but not limited to, the following:

- A weekly recorded video, setting out expectations for the week
- A morning login and mini activity to start each day
- Asynchronous (recorded) sessions each day (2 reading, 1 writing and 2 maths, over the course of the week)
- Synchronous (live) lessons each day, focused on reading, writing or maths
- Four recorded assemblies each week, including Collective Worship and a Celebration Assembly, to strengthen children's sense of community
- Further recorded lessons (various subjects), from the year group curriculum/carefully chosen from external sources, at the discretion of the



teacher.

- A suggested daily timetable breaking down work into 20-30 minute chunks, with breaks in between.
- Daily, live, Google Meets sessions for children and teachers to check in with each other.
- Home Learning Packs for some paper-based activities.
- Further independent, paper-based or practical activities set daily
- Online retrieval quizzes and reading activities. Key Stage 1 will have access to online home readers.

Reading for Pleasure will continue to be a key feature of our curriculum and will be supported through:

- A daily recorded storytelling video, with the teacher on screen.
- Explicit signposting to free online reading material and activities, including Epic Reading website, Oak National Academy virtual school library, and the Reading Journey app (for those with tablets) so children can continue to access reading materials
- Class Reading for Pleasure activities, such as Reading Scavenger hunts and virtual author visits

We will continue to signpost reading for pleasure opportunities as they occur.

4. 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?

We expect St Matthew's parents to support their children by:

- Maintaining your children's routine, by ensuring that they log in to register, complete work and upload work, as required.
- Enabling children to join daily live Google Meets lessons
- Ensuring that children watch recorded sessions/assemblies and complete tasks set by the teacher and upload them to Google Classroom

Please contact St Matthew's, via the School Office, if you are having difficulties with providing this support.

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

St Matthew's teachers and TAs will be online during the school day, between 9am and 3pm. **They will be checking on how children are engaging by:**



- Checking registration online each morning
- Providing feedback (answers to questions, praise, challenges etc.) on the live stream
- Marking at least 2 pieces of work per child, each day
- Phoning home at least once each week (families with more than two children in school will be called by a central contact from school).

Should there be any concerns regarding children's engagement with learning, parents will be informed by a phone call from the class teacher to discuss obstacles and support. If this continues, then the SLT and Pastoral Team will become involved to offer further support, followed by calls from our pastoral team, if needed. If required, the Headteacher will also make phone calls to parents.

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

At St Matthew's feedback takes 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. **Alongside these, our approach to feeding back on pupil work will also include:**

- Teachers and TAs will mark two pieces of work each day, from which they will assess understanding and offer support if their professional judgement suggests this is necessary.
- Google Meets will offer an opportunity to offer praise and encouragement to children who have shown exceptional effort, resilience or attainment.
- Children may use the live stream to ask their teachers for real time help with difficulties, throughout the day.

5. 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:

- Where children would normally receive additional support from SEND agencies, the SENCo will make arrangements for those to continue, via Google Classroom, as long as the agencies engage.
- Teachers will work with the SENCo to set appropriate adapted work, e.g. Oak National SENCo lessons or appropriate online phonics lessons provided by the



English Hubs.

- Children with SEND, in all year groups, will be sent Home Learning Packs from different year groups, to ensure that they have access to work that they can complete independently.

6. Remote education for self-isolating pupils

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

Using Google Classroom, the class teacher will upload pieces of work for your child to complete. The teacher will decide what materials are most appropriate for the individual child. **Children will also be directed to:**

- Complete activities linked to their remote learning packs.
- Relevant websites, within the remote learning section on our website, where they can access additional work

7. Maintaining wellbeing, motivation and keeping children safe

We appreciate that this pandemic, school closure and remote learning presents a set of unique challenges for both parents and children. Due to this, we are mindful of the need to ensure that wellbeing, motivation and safety are paramount. **We have two Mental Health First Aiders, Ms Tracey Adams and Miss Dannielle Williams, who will also be happy to follow up any concerns. St Matthew's also has a Learning Behaviours/Pastoral Team and a Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss Simone Pringle.** If you have any concerns about your child or yourself, please do not hesitate to **contact the St Matthew's School Office, on 0121 359 1602, or send us an email.**

Please use the following link on our website. <http://www.st-matthews.bham.sch.uk/covid-19.html> You will find information about:

- Wellbeing websites
- Local Foodbanks