



Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place, so that any child who cannot attend school because of COVID-19, does not miss out on their learning.

This letter explains our plans for remote learning for children who are learning at home, during the current school closures period and national lockdown.

Our remote learning plan for school closure/ national lockdown

Our remote learning plan has been made with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school. We aim to deliver our usual curriculum where possible, in accordance with the national curriculum.

Time spent on learning each day

The DfE has stipulated that KS1 pupils should be spending a minimum of 3 hours each day on curriculum activities and KS2 pupils a minimum of 4 hours each day.

Delivery methods

We are providing appropriate tasks for children through a range of methods:

- **Google Classroom** – Nursery to Y6 are now set up and running with children being given the necessary login details and instructions to log in and submit work.
- **Online Resources provided by the school** – you have been sent usernames and passwords to access your child's accounts for these resources and there are further details on the Home Learning page on the school website. Contact us if you need help with this.
 - Discovery Education/espresso
 - Purple Mash Online tools and activities.
 - Doodle Maths/English
- **Other online resources** - The school will use other platforms including; BBC resources, White Rose videos, Oak Academy, etc to support and supplement material on offer.
- **Teacher video introduction to lessons**

Lesson content

We will cover core curriculum areas of Maths, English, RE and Foundation curriculum areas dependent on the class topic.

Feedback for children

- Children will receive verbal or written feedback through Google Classroom.

Communication with teachers

- Parents can communicate with school via the dedicated helpline email admin@st-edmunds.towerhamlets.sch.uk



If there are concerns teachers will aim to contact parents within 24 hrs during the working week. Similarly, those parents who are struggling with technology, lost passwords, etc, will be contacted as soon as is possible.

It is through this dialogue, that we are able to reflect on our remote learning offer and adapt it as necessary.

What you'll need at home

- To access Google Classroom, you will need; a computer, laptop, Chromebook or tablet.
- You can also access Google Classroom through; an X-box, or a PS4 and PS5 with a keyboard.
- A mobile phone can be used if no other devices are available.
- Children will also need a pen/pencil, a ruler and some paper or a notebook
- If your child does not have any of the above, please let us know as soon as possible, so that we can help support you.

What we expect from your child

It is very important that your child engages with home learning. To help with this, we think it is important that they stick to a regular timetable each day and we will share a timetable for each class, on Google Classroom each week. We appreciate that there are competing priorities for computers and it is not always possible for children to follow the timetable as it is set out.

If children aren't engaging with the learning, we'll use the following strategies to provide additional support:

- Phone call home to ascertain barriers.
- Increased feedback/guidance on how to complete work.

What you can do to help

We appreciate that this situation presents some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

Younger children in particular may need support in accessing online materials and staying focused with their remote learning. We ask that you support your child's learning as much as possible.

We continue to promote independent learning, as in the classroom, but it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning, by asking them about their day and what they've learned.

Our top tips:

- Try to encourage your child to be ready for the start of the school day, and to keep to a learning routine.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life.
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day, allowing your child to spend some time outside if possible, to help keep your child active

You will find more ideas and tips for supporting your child with home learning on the flyer on the next page.

Getting support

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you're having any difficulties with remote learning, or if you have any questions, you can contact the school office with any queries.

Yours faithfully,

The Leadership Team of St Edmund's



10 TOP TIPS

REMOTE LEARNING FOR PARENTS

Remote learning can be a great way to continue learning outside the classroom, particularly in difficult circumstances. For parents and carers, the idea of remote learning isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote learning experience.

1) Take an active interest in your child's learning

As a parent or carer, remote learning will be a new concept for your child and there are bound to be a few teething problems to start with. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2) Monitor your child's communication and online activity

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3) Establish a daily schedule and routine

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4) Encourage screen breaks away from devices

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teacher's will invariably advise on screen breaks however it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5) Ensure your learning device is in a public space in the home

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6) Implement safety controls and privacy restrictions on apps and software

Dependant on how your school implements remote learning, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7) Ensure your child only uses official school communication channels

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8) Familiarise yourself with relevant school policies

Schools should have a policy on remote learning and direction that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9) Maintain feedback with teachers

Engage in communication with teachers where possible and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10) Monitor your child's wellbeing and mental health

Remote learning will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as you can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends everyday might take its toll.

