



## ***St Thomas of Canterbury R. C. Primary School***

### **Remote Education Provision: Information for parents**

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education while St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School is only open to vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

### **The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home**

A pupil's first few days 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?**

Remote learning is provided on Google Classroom and, your child should start work on this on the first morning of school closure. Further information will follow as the week progresses.

### **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. We have matched our remote offer to our long term curriculum map wherever this is practical. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in Art/DT where the children would have been using clay we have made adaptations to the curriculum to make it more accessible for remote learning. Other practical subjects eg PE/Games, Art, DT, music will also be adapted.

## 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:

#### Upper Key Stage 2

3 ½ - 4 hours a day

2 live Google Meet 15min on most days

1 weekly assembly

1 hour each for English /Maths

1 - 1 ½ hours for RE, Science/ foundation subjects

½ - 1 hour for spellings/ reading/ times tables

#### Lower Key Stage 2

3 - 3 ½ hours a day

1 hour each for English /Maths

½ -1 hour for RE, Science/ foundation subjects

20- 40 mins for spellings/ reading/ times tables

2 live Google Meet 15min on most days

1 weekly assembly

#### Key Stage 1

3 hours a day 1 hour for English to include reading and spelling/phonics

1hour maths to include practising number facts 1

additional hour to include either RE, Science or foundation subjects.

2 live Google Meet 15min on most days

1 weekly assembly

## **Early Years Foundation Stage EYFS**

Pupils will work best in short bursts with plenty of play and talk.

We would recommend spending a maximum of 15 minutes at a time on direct learning activities focusing mainly on phonics and reading, writing and maths, as detailed in the remote learning provision. A focus each day on one other area of the curriculum may include Religion, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development, Music, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts.

## **Accessing remote education**

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

All remote learning will be detailed in Google Classroom. There are sections and folders for each week and/or subject. There is also a classroom stream for pupils to post comments and queries. Pupils should only post relevant work related comments here between the hours of 9am and 4pm. Please ensure you and your child has read the Google Classroom rules and guidelines posted in their online classroom and on the school website.

### **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:

We monitor engagement on Google Classroom and contact parents directly where children have not logged on. In all communication to parents we have asked them to contact us if they do not have a device. If you would like a device please email us at [office@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk)

If you require stationary such as pencils, pen and paper, please contact [covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk)

Where a pupil does not have online access, printed packs can be made available for weekly collection from school. This completed work can be submitted weekly to school. We also have some BT-Wifi Hot spot codes and a number of Vodafone sim cards. Please email [covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk) if you require any assistance with the above.

## How will my child be taught remotely?

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

The approaches we use for remote teaching include:

- ✓ Daily Meet and Greet introducing the activities and outlining the day
- ✓ Some Recorded lessons made by teachers (eg Oak National Academy/BBC Bitesize lessons)
- ✓ Printed packs of work
- ✓ Online providers such as J2Blast, White Rose, NCETM, Education City and Times Tables Rockstars
- ✓ Google Meets with class/ year group teachers (Nursery -6)
- ✓ Small group/ 1:1 work with teacher/ Support staff as required
- ✓ These will be set up by the class teachers and details posted on Google Classroom.
- ✓ The Meets will give your child the opportunity for daily interaction with their class/ year group teacher.
- ✓ ELSA/ ARTs Therapy sessions on-going as deemed necessary – invite only

***These Meets will be arranged as above assuming all teaching staff are available. Where a teacher is unavailable, we will adapt the format appropriately***

## 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?**

As it is mandatory we **expect all pupils** to engage with the remote learning provided and to complete the minimum hours set as per the timetable above. Parental support required will depend on many factors including the age, motivation, concentration and attainment levels of pupils. We encourage parents to contact us if there are significant barriers to pupil engagement and we will do our best to work with families to overcome these.

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

Teachers will check pupils' engagement through Google Meet sessions and submitted work on Google Classroom.

Where engagement is a concern and is not resolved directly with the pupil, staff will call parents and outlining the concerns and discuss these. These will be referred to the Educational Welfare Officer.

## **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:

On the weekly timetable it will be clear which pieces of work will need to be turned in and marked.

Most feedback to pupils will take place during the Google Meets as outlined above.

As per our Feedback and Marking policy, we believe that verbal feedback, given as close as possible to the time the work is undertaken has the most impact on pupil progress.

Work that needs to be submitted for teachers to view and/or assess will be detailed on your child's Google Classroom and feedback will take place by direct message as appropriate. Teachers will monitor pupil progress and inform parents if there are concerns.

## **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:

Pupils with SEND have varying needs and ability to access the online learning curriculum. Where needed, class teachers will offer differentiated learning resources and activities.

These may be offered via the Google Classroom platform or via physical packs. Opportunities to collect further resources to support learning will be made available by school where the need is identified and required. Parent of pupils of SEND will also have access to a SEND Google Classroom Resource hub where there will be materials to help them to support their child at home.

Families of identified vulnerable pupils will receive check in calls to offer advice, guidance and support where needed. Outside agencies who offer pupils with EHCPs support e.g. speech therapists will continue to liaise with school and families virtually.

Pupils needing additional emotional support will be offered telephone calls to parents to offer advice, signposting to specialist support and resources where appropriate.

In EYFS, we understand that these very young pupils will need significant adult support but many lessons will involve videos for your child to watch and engage with. Other activities are clearly explained to enable adults to support children.

Opportunities to collect further resources to support learning will be made available by school where the need is identified and required.

## **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.

### **For further information and support**

If you have any queries, please contact the school office

[covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-thomascanterbury.merton.sch.uk)

Please note, teachers and staff will be engaged in preparing lessons, videos and hosting Google Meets and so urgent messages will be dealt with according to need and within 48 hours, non-urgent matters will be replied to within 5 working days.