

Love God, love others

Let your light shine



**THE BLUE COAT CHURCH OF ENGLAND (AIDED)
INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS' FEDERATION**

BELIEVING, CELEBRATING, SUCCEEDING

EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER: MR. A. ORLIK



Remote Education – Information for Parents

January 2021

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this guidance.

For any additional information please contact us:

Blue Coat Infant School - 01922 720740

Blue Coat Junior School – 01922 720921

postbox@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

To contact your child's teacher please use the relevant email address

Nursery@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Reception@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year1@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year2@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year3@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year4@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year5@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

Year6@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

The Inclusion Team can support with SEND, safeguarding, well-being issues including concerns about mental health and access to devices. The Team may also be able to help signpost support for financial concerns, housing issues and general family support. The team can be emailed on familysupport@bluecoatfederation.co.uk

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's first day or two 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?

All pupils (with suitable devices) will be able to access a daily blog post on Purple Mash. This will give details of a maths, English and reading lesson. Links appropriate to afternoon lessons to Oak Academy and BBC Bitesize will also be posted on the blog. Any child already known to be without a suitable device will be issued with a paper based home learning pack.

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. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in art and design technology adaptations have been made to take into account the resources pupils have available to them at home.

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:

Primary school-aged pupils	<p>We work to the Government guidance which sets out minimum requirements for junior year groups as four hours per day.</p> <p>For infant children, the Government guidance sets out up to three hours per day for years 1 and 2 and a smaller appropriate amount for Nursery and Reception.</p>
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Accessing remote education

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

Access to all remote education is via the daily blog on Purple Mash –
www.purplemash.com

The direct link to Purple Mash for Blue Coat Infants is www.purplemash.com/sch/bluecoat

The direct link to Purple Mash for Blue Coat Junior is www.purplemash.com/blue-dh1

Links to other remote education will be posted via the blog. These include the Blue Coat YouTube Learning Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3ws3jQEx5Ztgp7_3LqROAA

Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy>

BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

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:

- The school has a small number of devices provided by the DfE. These will be loaned to families when needs arise. A notice is placed on the school website to provide parents with further information about this. If a family feel they need a device they can contact their child's year group through the appropriate year group email. Alternatively, parents can contact the Family Support email to express their interest in a device. Devices will be allocated in order of priority using the following criteria:
 - Where there is a child/ren without any access to a device
 - Where a child/ren only have access to a smartphone
 - Where a child/ren are sharing one device with several siblings or adults within the household
- Each family's situation will be looked at on an individual basis. If they meet the above criteria a member of staff will contact them to discuss their internet access and any concerns
- If a pupil is unable to access an electronic device paper packs will be made available for them to use. These packs will mirror the online learning taking place to ensure an equality of learning offer. Learning packs will be available to collect from the schools fortnightly on a Monday. Parents may request a paper pack at any point which can be collected, once ready, from the Junior Office.one of the school offices.
- Pupils without online access will be able to submit work by photographing it and submitting it via their year group email. Alternatively, completed work packs can be returned to school when a new pack is collected. A member of staff will mark the work and provide feedback. Once the pack has been marked, parents will receive a text notifying them. Parents can then collect the pack and feedback sheet. If verbal feedback is required this will be followed up by the member of staff who has marked the pack.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Each year group will offer a live Google Meet with pupils at least once a day. These live meets will allow children to interact directly with teachers from their year group to discuss daily lessons and learning related feedback. These live sessions will also incorporate some PSHE/Well Being activities to support children's mental health during lockdown.
- For a small number of pupils per year group, live teaching sessions will be delivered through Google Classroom. These will occur three times a week and consist of an additional maths lesson and a reading lesson where children will be heard to read. The parents of pupils identified for these live lessons will be notified via a separate phone call and letter.
- Recorded teaching. Class teachers will record videos for English and Maths. A new video, for each core subject, will be posted daily on the Blue Coat Learning Channel on You Tube. For pupils at Blue Coat Junior School a new chapter of a book will be posted each day as part of their reading lesson. There will be a quiz attached to this to develop understanding.
- Purple Mash. Every student has a login in to the Purple Mash website. Once logged on to the Blue Coat portal pupils can access a daily learning blog written by their year group teachers. This blog will outline all of the lessons set for the pupil that day. All links to necessary websites, worksheets and materials needed for the lessons will be embedded into the blog for ease of access. Pupils at Blue Coat Infant School will also be able to access phonic lessons appropriate to their level
- Lessons posted on the daily Purple Mash blog will also have follow up learning tasks known as 2Dos. These can be submitted electronically where the teacher will then mark and submit feedback individually to each child. Alternatively, a child may wish to record or present their work in a different matter. In this case a pupil or parent can photograph the work and submit it via the year group email address.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences such as White Rose Maths, Serial Mash, Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize will also be used.

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?

- It is beneficial for young people and children to maintain a regular and familiar routine. Blue Coat Federation therefore recommends that a structure is maintained at home for each school day. This includes a regular bedtime and waking at the usual time.
- Families should access work together and where necessary parents should provide support for the pupil to complete the work.
- It is the responsibility of the pupil and family to ensure they have a copy of the usernames and passwords provided for our online learning websites. These have been provided to every pupil via their planners. If these have been lost it is expected that parents contact school immediately to gain replacement details.
- There is an expectation that, unless the child is ill themselves, all work should be completed in a timely manner and returned for marking as soon as possible.
- We would encourage parents to support their children's work, including finding them a suitable, quiet place for the pupil to work and by praising efforts made.

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

- Pupil's engagement with online learning will be monitored daily via the Purple Mash Learning Platform. Teachers will record an overall level of engagement for a week on the school's engagement tracker.
- Year Group emails will be monitored daily to track the engagement of pupils who are working on paper and sending photographs of completed work.
- For children who are working with paper based learning packs; parents/carers will be asked to return the completed pack to monitor level of engagement and provide feedback etc.
- Where the level of engagement is a concern this will be discussed in a phone call home with parents and the child themselves. Parents and pupils will be given the opportunity during this phone call to address any concerns or difficulties that are arising. If any barriers to engagement are identified every effort will be made to overcome these.
- If the level of engagement is a concern and the family cannot be reached by telephone on more than two occasions a text message will be sent asking parents to contact school. If no communication is received a follow up email will be sent. If engagement remains a concern and school have been unable to contact the parents to discuss this a referral to the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer connected to our Federation will be made.

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:

- For pupils accessing online learning Purple Mash 2Dos will be marked regularly and feedback given where appropriate. If teachers become aware of a wider set of misconceptions this will be addressed via either the live Google Meet sessions or by a recorded video posted on the YouTube Learning Channel.
- Families who chose to email work to the relevant Year Group will receive a response in the form of an email.
- Pupils working from home packs will have these marked and returned to them with feedback within a week. If necessary a follow up phone call will be made by a member of staff to discuss their work and provide teaching points for future development.

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 those 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:

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Pupils identified as having SEND will receive a phone call from the SENDCO and/or member of the Inclusion team to establish any additional support required during school closure. The SENDCOs for both Blue Coat Junior and Blue Coat Infant School have prepared specific work packs for SEND pupils that will be sent home to support pupils.
- Pupils with SEND in EYFS and Year 1 will be able to access a selection of activities that cover the 7 areas of learning. These activities will aim to develop among other things fine and gross motor skills, early literacy awareness and knowledge of the world. Class teacher will also provide individual resources specifically in line with the children's need after a discussion with parents and the SENDCO .

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.

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

If a child has to isolate they will still be able to access online learning via the Purple Mash blog. Lessons will be posted daily. For Maths these will be links to the White Rose resources. These lessons follow the lessons that are being delivered in school. This will help pupils not to fall behind and to return to school easily after a period of time at home. Literacy activities will also mirror what is being delivered in school. Links to Foundation subjects (Science, RE, History etc.) will also be posted on the blog and will suggest appropriate resources from Oak National Academy or BBC Bitesize. These lessons will cover the same topics that are being covered in school. For pupils at Blue Coat Infant School links to appropriate phonic lessons/resources will also be posted.

Any pupil self-isolating who does not have access to a device will be loaned one by the Federation. Where demand for a loaned device outweighs the number of devices available the criteria for loaning a device outlined above will be used.