



# Merrydale Junior School

*Be the Best you can Be!*



Headteacher: Catriona Mugglestone

Deputy Head: Antony Corbett

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ABOUT REMOTE LEARNING

January 2021

Discovery Trust schools have added this to their websites to support understanding of what pupils, parents and carers, should expect during periods of school closure or pupil isolation relating to coronavirus (COVID-19).

This document should be read alongside the school's contingency plan and the home learning document.





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## 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 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 page.

### 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?**

During the first few days of immediate remote education our teaching staff will need time to plan and prepare the remote learning lessons therefore for the first day or two you should expect your child to be sent home with the following:

| KS2  |
|--|
| <b>Microsoft Teams</b>   |
| Home learning pack containing the login details for MS Teams and other learning platforms.   |
| Home learning workbook containing a timetable of curriculum linked learning tasks. The workbook will be used throughout the period of remote learning. |
| The learning tasks will be set on Microsoft Teams in the form of an assignment.  |
| (See Microsoft Teams Parent support pdf attached)  |
| Please login to the learning platform to access the learning for your child.   |





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Teachers and teaching assistants will contact you and your child for a ten-minute live group chat.

After the first few days the children will be able to access their lessons from a hyperlinked visual timetable like the one listed below. They will be able to click on the images and access the lesson/learning task.

**Visual (Hyperlink) Timetable LKS2**

| Time           | Monday                    | Tuesday                   | Wednesday                 | Thursday                  | Friday                    |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 – 9:30    | Online register<br>       |
|                | Morning work<br>          |
| 9:30 – 10:10   | Maths Lesson –<br>        |
| 10:10 to 10:30 | Quick Arithmetic<br>      |
| 10:30 to 10:50 | Break Time<br>            |
| 10:50 to 11:30 | English Lesson -<br>      |
| 11:30 to 12:00 | Spellings<br>             | Spellings<br>             | Spellings<br>             | Spellings<br>             | Spellings<br>             |
| 12:00 to 1:00  | Lunch<br>                 | Lunch<br>                 | Lunch<br>                 | Lunch<br>                 | Lunch<br>                 |
| 1:00 to 1:30   | Reading -<br>             |
| 1:30 to 2:30   | Reading Comprehension<br> |
| Reading Tasks  |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |

## 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 will 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:

- Live lessons will be shorter than a normal face to face lesson in the classroom. Online lesson structures are very different to a traditional lesson, teachers need to balance the screen time, concentration levels and the learning task to create the correct level of engagement for all of their learners in a remote education situation.
- Morning lessons will be live or pre-recorded and the children will be taught by their teacher in either format.
- The format of the afternoon lessons will vary slightly but the lessons will still be linked to the same curriculum. The learning may appear in the form of pre-recorded lessons by the Oak Academy or by your child’s class teacher alternatively the lesson may require some independent learning time and your child may be asked to find their learning tasks on the learning platform instead.





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- Occasionally, your child may also be taught by another teacher from another school in our Trust during remote learning situations. If this happens, you will be notified by your class teacher and your child will be made aware of the changes.

## 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 are expected to work remotely at home for the minimum of **4 hours per day**. This expectation has been set by the DfE. We will be monitoring children's engagement with remote learning and the school will contact you if your child is not accessing the lessons on the learning platforms. The class teacher will call if they notice a lack of work being submitted or a persistent absence from online live lessons and if this continues then a member of the Senior Leadership Team will send a letter and request an online/face to face meeting with you to discuss the matter further. Our expectation is:

#### **Morning Welcome**

##### **Lessons:**

##### **Maths**

Live/pre-recorded lessons (school staff/White Rose) 1 hour

##### **English**

Live/pre-recorded lessons (school staff/Oak Academy) 1 hour

##### **Reading**

- Guided reading 30 minutes
- Listening to chapter of class book 30 minutes
- Early morning reading – Accelerated Read, MyOn

**Afternoon lessons** (The subjects will vary every afternoon. They might be live, pre-recorded or set on another platform):

##### **Geography or History**

(60 minutes)

##### **Science/Computing/RE**

(60 minutes)

##### **PSHE**





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(30 minutes)

**ART/CREATIVE**

(60 minutes)

TTRS and Century Tech platform – including maths, English and Science

These times will vary according to the lesson and the type of learning activity

## Accessing remote education

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

The children will bring home a home learning pack if they have to access remote learning. The pack will contain all of login/password details for the learning platforms listed below.

| KS2                |
|--------------------|
| Microsoft Teams    |
| TTRS               |
| Accelerated Reader |
| Century Tech       |

### 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:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| How will you issue or lend laptops or tablets to pupils, and where parents or carers can find more information? | You must contact the school office and notify us immediately. We have a number of loan devices that are used for remote learning situations. There is a limited amount. When you borrow a device, you will be asked to fill in and sign a loan agreement. Once you sign the agreement, you are agreeing to be responsible for a school device. It is the property of the school and therefore loss, theft or damage may be dealt with by outside authorities/agencies (police) in extreme cases. The digital device must be returned to school as soon as your child returns.<br>Please find more information on our school website on the EdTech page or contact the school office. |
|---|--|





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|  |   |
|--|---|
| How you will issue or lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles), and where parents or carers can find more information | If you do not have access to an internet connection at home, please contact the school office.  |
| How pupils can access any printed materials needed if they do not have online access   | Our aim is to try to give online access to every child in a remote learning situation. If you do not have access, please contact the school so that we can provide the correct devices in the first instance.<br>Printed learning packs will be sent home regularly however these are designed to complement the online lessons.<br>Printed materials will not provide the best access to learning for your child and they will miss out on the teacher input. If you need to discuss this further, please speak to your class teacher or a member of staff in the school office. |
| How pupils can submit work to their teachers if they do not have online access   | Please read the information listed above.<br>Contact the school.  |

Please be aware that we will contact you if your child is not accessing the learning remotely.

## How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g., Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

| KS2  |
|--|
| BBC Bite-size -<br><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons</a> |
| Daily Lessons on Teams –<br><a href="https://teams.microsoft.com">https://teams.microsoft.com</a>                        |





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Oak Academy Website -

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/>

White Rose Website -

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/year-4/>

NCTEM -

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/54454>

Accelerated Reader Website -

<https://ukhosted83.renlearn.co.uk/6650566/>

Century Tech Website -

<https://app.century.tech/login>

Oxford Owl Website -

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/user/sign-up.html>

## 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?**

### Roles and Responsibilities (Children)

*Maintain your excellent progress at school by:*

- Dedicating appropriate time to learning, your teacher will give you guidance to time expectations
- Check (platform to be agreed) to understand your teachers' expectations of what you are learning and what you need to produce
- When you are working at home make sure you choose a quiet space free from distractions (such as TV)
- Remember you should still do your own work! Parents/helpers can **help** but not do the work for you
- Keep healthy habits and take breaks away from devices between scheduled lessons
- Be dressed in your clothes not your pyjamas
- Be at the table where possible
- When you are learning in a Teams lesson make sure that you blur your background



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- If you cannot blur your background, then make sure you are sitting with a blank wall behind you
- In a live Teams lesson put your mic on mute until your teacher asks you a question
- In a live Teams lesson keep your camera on (if you have permission)
- In a live Teams lesson use the 'raise your hand' icon if you want to ask a question
- When you are learning in a live lesson be polite and use your manners
- Only use the learning platform in school hours to write anything. If you need to access the lessons in the evenings as you are sharing a device please do not comment.
- If you have a set of headphones with a mic, wear them to stop distractions when you are learning online

| Questions related to:                        | Contact:                                       | Typical Response Time |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Your learning                                | Class/specialist teacher – use Microsoft Teams | 12 hours              |
| Technology                                   | ICT help desk                                  | 48 hours              |
| Any other issue related to distance learning | Headteacher                                    | 72 hours              |

## Roles and Responsibilities (Parents)

*Support your child/ren in their learning by:*

- Consider the age of their child- adjust home learning environment to suit their educational needs.
- Providing an environment conducive to learning (access to technology, safe and quiet space during daytime).
- Engaging in conversations on posted materials, assignments.
- Respect that teachers will respond in a reasonable time frame but will not be instantly available.
- Monitoring time spent engaging in online and offline learning, including variables like that of preferred learning times (morning, afternoon, evening)
- Support emotional balance by providing ample room and time for reflection, physical activity, conversation, and play.
- Monitor their access





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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a learning space</li> <li>• Ensure they fully engage and follow expectation</li> </ul> |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Questions related to:   | Contact:                                       | Typical Response Time |
| Your child's learning   | Class/specialist teacher – use Microsoft Teams | 24 hours              |
| Technology  | ICT helpdesk                                   | 48 hours              |
| Any other issue related to distance learning  | Headteacher                                    | 72 hours              |

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

The school will run a daily check and the teacher will complete a daily register of attendance and participation in learning. The class teacher will also be contacting your child every day with a live element on Microsoft Teams. Teachers will make phone calls home too.

The learning platforms also monitor every child's usage, and this will be checked every week by the school's senior leadership team.

If your child is not accessing the remote learning a member of staff will contact, you. We will do our best to work with you and your child to find the best solution to learning remotely online.

## 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. Feedback also takes place during times of online social interaction and by forming learning relationships with the children. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

| KS2  |
|--|
| <p><b>Teams</b></p> <p>Typed message in your child's class Team</p> <p>Assignments – marked weekly</p> <p>Audio file</p> <p>Teacher video clip</p> <p>Poll</p> |





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Quiz  
Questionnaire  
Photographs/Video

Teachers will also be in regular contact with your child throughout the week and therefore will be using verbal feedback on some occasions too.

## 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. Therefore, please be aware that children with SEND will only be asked to learn in a remote learning situation in very extreme cases and we will do our best to continue to educate them in a school setting as all schools were advised to do in the first lockdown scenario. 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:

Children will continue to be supported by our inclusion department throughout the period of the remote learning. This may take the form of 1:1 mentoring/contact (Teachers and TAs) or specific learning activities set by the Inclusion team. Where your child receives additional support from the inclusion team, please be mindful of your child's workload and consider that they may not be able to access all the lesson content in any given day.

- Children will access their specific learning activities through Microsoft Teams.
- Inclusion interventions will be made available for example: a child may have access to the following interventions, maths, English, phonics, social skills, fine motor, specific SEND work linked to their personalised learning timetable and other enrichment sessions.
- Teachers will provide feedback to children and parents with regards to the work they have submitted via the telephone, Microsoft Teams, video chat and emails.
- The SENDco will work closely with the class teachers to ensure that misconceptions from classroom work can be addressed and additional activities and guidance can be provided.

## Remote education for self-isolating pupils





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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?**

## KS2

Assignments will be set on Microsoft Teams

Some lessons will be live streamed so that your child can access them at home

Some lessons will be pre-recorded for your child to access

Some lessons will be signposted to the Oak academy – same curriculum just a different teacher

Teachers will contact your child twice per week via MS Teams for a learning conversation

Teachers will create a hyperlinked visual timetable for your child so that they can access the lessons, the content, and the learning tasks instantly.



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## Leicestershire County Schools:

Kibworth C of E Primary School – Lead EdTech School  
 Ashfordby Captain’s Close Primary School  
 Enderby Danemill Primary School  
 Farndon Fields Primary School  
 Fossebrook Primary School  
 Greystoke Primary School  
 Parklands Primary School  
 Redlands Primary School  
 Woollen Hill Primary School

[Mrs Gilly Paterson](#)  
[Mrs Andrea Bailey](#)  
[Miss Tracey Lawrence](#)  
[Mrs Nikki Matthew](#)  
[Mrs Kathie Wade](#)  
[Mrs Ronnie Richardson](#)  
[Mrs Jo Andrews](#)  
[Mrs Michelle Tobin](#)  
[Mrs Candi Norman](#)

Headteacher  
 Acting Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Head of School

## Leicester City Schools:

Braunstone Primary School  
 Merrydale Junior School  
 Mowmacre Primary School

[Mr Halil Tamgumus](#)  
[Mrs Catriona Mugglestone](#)  
[Mr Matthew Peet](#)

Headteacher  
 Headteacher  
 Headteacher

## Rutland County Schools:

Leighfield Primary School

[Mrs Sarah Eaton](#)

Headteacher

## Discovery Trust Lead Team



**Paul Stone**  
 CEO of Discovery Schools Trust  
 Contact No: 07870 194 191



**David Briggs**  
 Director of Primary Education



**Dawn White**  
 School Improvement Partner



**Sarah Sadler**  
 Executive Headteacher



**Nathan Thirlby**  
 Director of IT





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Note:

The images and names are hyperlinked. Please click on the names of the headteachers or the photographs of the Trust leaders if you wish to contact them by email.

