



Ghyllside School Online Learning Strategy

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. If remote learning needs to be actioned at short notice (for example in the event of a bubble closure) we will take a day to ensure our offer is consistent and ready to go before publishing. If a bubble closes at 2.30pm on Tuesday online learning will start from 9.00am Thursday for example. There are links to learning activities for each year group on our website ([ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk / children / home learning](http://ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk/children/home-learning) - scroll down to 'All year group resources', 'Home learning websites' and 'General Links') that can be accessed for the 24hrs before our online learning goes live.

Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

- We aim to teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, we may direct you to some Joe Wickes style online lessons for PE.
- We would always aim for the same home learning to take place as those learning in class but recognise that this may involve a doubling up of teacher work so there may be some delay to setting the same home learning.

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	3 hours per day for KS1 and 4 hours per day for KS2 - not necessarily 3 / 4 hours screen time!
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Accessing remote education

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

For reception and Year 1 – All work set, and return interactions with the teacher, will be conducted through the Tapestry app.

For Years 2 – 6:

- The work will be accessed from the year group area on the website ([ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk / children / home learning / year group](http://ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk/children/homelearning/yeargroup))
 - This work is **not** password protected, specifically to make access as easy as possible
 - This work is specifically **not** live so children in households with fewer devices than children can access their learning at a time that best suits their family's circumstances **and** to not quickly use data allowances
 - Each day is left live for five working days after publication, again so children can access their learning at a time that best suits their family's circumstances
- Work will include a Flip Grid (film) introduction for the learning followed by daily literacy and numeracy lessons, and a rotation of other subjects
- At present work will be fed back to staff by a copy of the work (for example a word document or a photo of a piece of work completed) being emailed back to the year group email address. This email address is your child's year group, then the word 'class' followed by our usual school email address. For example, the year 6 email address is - y6class2020@ghyllside.cumbria.sch.uk

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 will endeavour to provide repurposed school laptops or Government issued laptops where possible. Please contact the office to be put onto the list for one of these
- For those initially unable to access our online learning we will print work for collection or delivery. This can be returned by post or with a family friend to school.

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 all children to take a full part in their remote education activities for 3 hours per day if in KS1 and 4 hours per day if in KS2. This doesn't necessarily mean 3 / 4 hours screen time. Please break this into smaller time segments to help children to concentrate
- We expect all children to read or be read to for 30 minutes a day as a minimum and engaging with your child through questions and book discussions
- Parents or carers will have an important role to play in setting and maintaining good work routines such as getting children up and ready to learn, monitoring the quality of learning in terms of neatness and appropriateness of their responses to the task – please see guidance shared with parents below
- Let staff know if parents or children are struggling with an aspect of the learning through the year group email

Staff providing feedback

In relation to returning home learning to staff at school please be aware that teachers are also balancing the varying demands of their own lives through lockdowns and bubble closures so are not expected to respond to emailed work in the evening or over weekends.

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 with remote education at least twice a week. This will be done by monitoring the children's returned work and through the use of welfare calls
- Children and teachers can communicate with each other more frequently using the year group email account
- If necessary school staff will contact you by phone or e-mail to understand why home learning may appear not to be happening and work together to suggest beneficial ways to support your child
- If no response from a family is received after several varied attempts to do this a member of the SLT may carry out a door step, socially distanced, home visit

Additional information for parents facilitating home education

The following are strategies we have shared with parents to help try to ensure a sustainable and productive home learning environment:

The following are a list of points that you may find useful to think about when planning home education:

- Prioritise the work that is set:
 - It's better to do less better than more badly
 - It's better to do a bit each day (to help keep a routine) than a lot one day and nothing the next
 - Do the Maths and English first
 - If you can't get it all done don't worry
- Set expectations – make sure you and your children know what finished looks like before you start
- Try to work in a quiet place in a purposeful way
- Try to get school work done early in the day, and where possible get most of it done before lunch
- Build in short sharp break times for you and your children
- Don't be afraid to tell your child if they are not trying hard enough, but aim to praise your child three times as much as challenging them when talking about the work they are doing and the effort they are putting in
- Don't be afraid to use incentivisation (yes, bribery!)
- Make sure the children get outside daily
- All of this is easier if the children go to bed on time and get up as they usually would for school. Some families have found that this is helped by the children dressing in school uniform for their learning time

Additional information for parents' self-care during provision of home education

The following are a list of points that parents may find useful to think about when planning home education that will specifically help make the situation manageable for them:

- For yourself - set a daily routine that works for you ('you' being you personally as a parent as well as your children) – don't try to 'be school'
- For yourself - make sure you get a break from your children each day to do something for yourself
- For yourself – try to talk to a friend / adult outside the household daily
- For yourself – do not compare yourself to other households; no two households are the same
- For yourself – fixate on the things that have gone well not badly, and reward yourself

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 necessary additional / different learning activities are provided by the staff that specifically work with the child on a child by child basis
- Our SENCo, is on hand to offer staff and parents advice re on- line learning content if needed

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?

In the first instance where individual children are self-isolating, teachers would contact parents to reassure them and seek out the best way to provide home learning. This may be done by e-mailing work, adding work to the website, sending paper copies of work through the post or hand delivering via a family friend or in person. Children and parents will be able to give the teacher feedback on their work by e-mailing the teacher or a phone call before or after the school day has begun.

If your child's year group is open, and you choose to keep them at home, remote learning will not be provided.