

At Abbey Gates School we are committed to ensuring the very best outcomes for children and we are concerned that when individuals are required to self-isolate, that this may be detrimental to the wellbeing and the educational progress of children. We wish to work with you to support your child in accessing their lessons and schoolwork from home.

How will remote teaching work?

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school through a combination of live teaching and tasks set for pupils to access independently. Details are communicated to families via our Microsoft TEAMS pages.

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:

- Foundation Stage - 2 hours
- Key Stage 1 pupils (Years 1 and 2) - 3 hours +
- Key Stage 2 pupils (Years 3 to 6) - 4 hours +

Teachers will be delivering lessons from their classrooms or from home through Microsoft TEAMS. These will be accessible from home, via the Microsoft TEAMS App. You will need to either download TEAMS or use the Web App (available at [here](#)). They will then be able to click on the class page and join the live lessons throughout the day.

These lessons are more than just a one-way stream but a collaborative video call and so your child will be able to participate fully as though they were at school.

In F2, children will have 2 live sessions per day. In the morning, a live register will be followed by a live phonics session. At the end of the school day, children can log on to listen to a story read by their class teacher. In addition to this, there will be an online White Rose maths lessons and a handwriting activity to complete. A weekly project web with activities linked to the seven areas of the early years curriculum will also be sent to allow for opportunities for children to learn through play.

If your child is learning from home, we will upload a timetable for the week's taught sessions with joining links that will allow you to plan with your children and to have a quick access link that will launch the Teams video call.

How will my child be taught remotely?

At Abbey Gates Primary we employ a range of remote teaching approaches including:

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas as signposted by teachers, including video clips or sequences (e.g., Oak Academy, BBC bitesize, Oxford Owl, White Rose)
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities

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:

- Quizzes (used to assess learning and inform next steps)
- Assessment for learning resulting in live verbal feedback during live lessons,
- Pupils will receive feedback on their work as and when it is uploaded to OneNote/Tapestry
- Following assessment, some pupils may be invited to additional catch-up sessions as directed by the class teachers.

What if I have children in different year groups?

If you have more than one child who is learning from home we will work with you to ensure both children receive provision. Everyone's circumstances are different and we will work with you to find a solution. Some lessons can be recorded so that pupils can access them at different times, paper resources may be delivered or a device may be available for loan.

What can my child work on independently?

In addition to the direct teaching through Microsoft TEAMS, teachers will be assigning a range of learning activities that children can complete in addition to the timetabled sessions. Your child's teacher will signpost you to these resources.

Teachers will communicate with your child any homework / tasks they need to complete and when they need to be returned by. If they complete their work in an exercise book, they use the web camera built into the laptop device, on an iPad or phone to capture the work and upload it.

What if I am struggling to access the online resources or I am stuck with my work?

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. As a school we are closely monitoring engagement and aim to contact any families who face barriers to accessing provision in a timely manner, supporting them to overcome obstacles to their child's learning. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- We have SIMs to support with internet connection. Parents or carers should contact the school office to enquire about this facility.
- Pupils can access any printed materials needed if they do not have online access. This can be returned to school for marking and feedback by arrangement with the class teacher.

As a school we have been allocated 5 devices for remote learning by the Department for Education. To be eligible to access one of these devices your child will need to meet the following criteria:

- Disadvantaged pupils - Children in receipt of Free School Meals, pupils who fall into the category of 'vulnerable' - [click here for definition of vulnerable children](#).
- Disadvantaged pupils in any year group who have been advised to shield because they (or someone they live with) are clinically extremely vulnerable.
- Disadvantaged children in any year group attending a hospital school.

Please contact the school office office@agps.org.uk if your child fits into one of these categories and you need support in accessing online resources.

In addition to the range of 'how to' guides shared by class teachers your child can chat with their teachers asking for support and help through TEAMS chat.

What devices can I use to access the home learning from?

If you have devices at home then you can use Office 365 Microsoft TEAMS on a Windows PC, an Apple device and Android devices. Children will be able to join calls from laptops, tablets or smartphones, through the app. However, we would suggest that the device that your child uses has a screen that is large enough for them to easily watch the teacher's presentation or electronic whiteboard notes.



This does not require a high-end device. Teachers will teach in a manner that is straight-forward and does not need any additional offline tools, other than Office 365 and the online resources.

Staying healthy whilst at home

All children will be signposted to physical fitness activities to ensure they are looking after their physical health. This will include links on the timetables to provision such as:

- Go Noodle
- Cosmic Yoga
- Dance Around the World

We are also aware that many children may find an extended period of isolation from peers difficult. We are therefore encouraging the '10-a-day' approach.

'10 a day' choices towards balancing our mental health



Talk about your feelings



Do something you enjoy and are good at



Keep yourself hydrated



Eat well



Keep active in mind and body



Take a break



Stay connected to those you care about



Ask for help



Be proud of your very being



Actively care for others

What are the guidelines for my child's use of the school's online resources?

There are several key guidelines that we will be following, to ensure positive online behaviours on the school digital platforms.

- Children will be expected to behave in a polite and courteous manner with their peers and teachers, while online.
- Staff will be available at set times within the school day for online support, outside of scheduled lessons. There will, however, be periods of the day when teachers will go offline and will not be accessible by TEAMS message, such as lunchtimes, outside of normal educational hours and in the evenings. Class teachers will communicate their availability to you.
- We recommend that children have adequate time away from devices and that they have enough opportunity for physical activity.
- Please set up a working environment where you can both supervise and support children during a school day. Set clear expectations for the sensible use of the device and to ensure that it does not get damaged.
- Refer to the information guide on our website [Click here](#).
- Follow our [internet safety guidance](#).

Keeping in touch

It is important that we keep in touch with you and your children during periods of remote education. Every day we will be registering the children in the morning. We will also in each lesson be ensuring that we record who has joined in remotely. We will also be tracking the work completed.

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If your child is not online and we do not hear from you then we will be in touch to make sure that you are all OK.

We would like to assure you that we, as a school, recognise that there is no perfect solution to remote teaching and learning. We are keen to work with you to provide the best support that we can and will aim to support you to the greatest extent that we can in continuing your child's education at home. Please bear with us as we adapt to this new way of working, which we are certain will provide the best quality of education for your children, while they are at home.

We hope that this package of support will enable your child to continue their education during this time.

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 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:

- Teachers will contact pupils with specific needs to support access to remote learning.
- For our younger pupils in Foundation, shorter online sessions will be made available with a focus on key basic skills including phonics. Resources to support these will be available on Tapestry.
- Our SENCo will contact pupils needing individualised provision and ensure provision is adapted according to needs