

Information for Parents

This information is intended to help pupils and parents or carers understand what to expect from remote education if pupils are required to remain at home for reasons related to Covid-19.

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?

In the first couple of days, in addition to the Parent's 'Weekly Curriculum Sheet' which gives ideas for home learning, please make use of the 'remote education' side of the sheet. This gives you a summary of the 'Top Ten' key skills that are practised through the continuous provision in school every day. In addition to that you will also receive links to the Read Write Inc phonics films to watch – these will be the sounds that your child's phonics group are covering – usually through Tapestry, but sometimes texted to you in the first few days for ease. As part of our regular school offer, children will always have at least one school reading book at home which we encourage them to continue to read in these first couple of days.

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?

At The Limes we believe strongly in learning through play and a practical approach to learning. Therefore, we will continue to use our well-established Tapestry practice to share remote learning instruction and activity ideas. As in school, these will often come in the form of 'challenges'.

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 subjects such as PE where group work would normally take place, we have had to adjust the approach for individual study.

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:

Number of hours	As a lot of the challenges we set are open ended, the minimum amount of work for a KS1 child would be on average 3 hours per day, across the week. This would be slightly less for children in Reception and Nursery.
Breakdown of hours	<p>In an average week, the daily breakdown is:</p> <p>English – minimum 1 hour (including lesson/task and ‘Top Ten’ practice)</p> <p>Maths – minimum 1 hour (including lesson/task and ‘Top Ten’ practice)</p> <p>Phonics – 20 minutes (Read Write Inc phonics video and associated ‘Top Ten’ practice)</p> <p>Comprehension – 20 minutes (a story read each day by a member of staff with key questions to ask)</p> <p>Topic/Foundation Subjects – 2-3 times per week, at an average of 20 mins per day - (including lesson and task)</p> <p>In addition, we also supply links for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Oxford Owl online books – these are in line with and include many of our reading scheme- Joe Wicks PE sessions- Music sessions- Recipe of the week for cooking at home- Education City – the whole content it available for children at home <p>Every day there is a member of the class staff on duty on Tapestry to provide ‘in the moment planning’ style questions to further learning, either from children’s responses from learning set or from children’s own interests, so we encourage parents to upload pictures, scanned copies of work and descriptions of what their children are engaging with at home.</p>

Accessing remote education

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

Remote education is all set via Tapestry, including pre-recorded videos (so that instructions can be watched more than once) and typed instructions. All parents are inducted in the use of Tapestry when their child starts at The Limes and this is used as an assessment and collaborative tool for parents and school staff to support each child's individual development. The continued use of this tool ensures continuity of approach.

All videos and other learning platforms all use internet browsers, so that they may be accessed from any internet-enabled device. These include the Read Write Inc portal, the Oak National Academy (which has a range of lessons pre-recorded by teachers) and the White Rose Maths site.

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:

Unfortunately the government scheme for laptops is unavailable for our school, as we only have Early Years and Key Stage 1. Hence we have chosen to use Tapestry as we know all parents at school have access to this. Work can therefore be scanned (many phones can do this via their camera, note function or app) or photographed and uploaded to Tapestry.

Should you not have a device that allows this, e.g. due to lack of internet access, please contact the school who will try to support you, for example with a temporary internet connection or increased data at this time.

As a last resort, we can issue paper-based alternatives, however these would need to be collected from and dropped off weekly at school – please be aware that feedback for work will not be as quick as it is via Tapestry.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- recorded teaching (e.g. Recorded Lessons, Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers, White Rose Maths lessons, Read Write Inc phonics videos)
- in the moment feedback from school staff to extend and deepen learning will further be used as a remote teaching tool, this is also an opportunity for staff to address misconceptions with children
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets) where a family does not have any access to the online learning

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?

What we expect:

- Parents/carers to set a routine that suits you as a family – we use this approach rather than live lessons as we know that different arrangements suit different families
- Parents/carers to support their child to watch the video instructions etc. and enable them to have a go at the associated learning
- That children engage in at least two pieces of learning per day initially, upping this as appropriate.

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

We will check , through monitoring engagement with Tapestry, how a child is accessing this online learning. Each week, each class teacher will check that parents have managed to access learning and will look at the response to each of the tasks.

Where engagement is a concern, we will phone parents/carers to find out what we can do to help – we understand this is a tricky time and we may be able to provide practical advice to support engagement at home.

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:

At The Limes, feedback will mainly consist of:

- Feedback on Tapestry posts to extend learning. This could be in the form of questions for the children to answer, or suggestions for how they could improve their work further
- Each piece of learning that is submitted on Tapestry will be at least acknowledged daily – more detail feedback from your child's class teacher will be at least weekly, but may be delayed if they are currently on the rota to be in school.

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:

- For children with additional needs, we will provide personalised activities and ideas for practical learning. These will be posted on the child's individual Tapestry page, rather than on the class one.
- We will make regular contact with parents to gauge how this is being accessed at home and will adjust accordingly.
- If additional materials are necessary, staff will make these available for collection at school.

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?

As much as possible, if an individual is accessing remote learning whilst the rest of the class is still attending in person, the offer will not look much different. The biggest difference will be how the remote learning is set.

For example, during 'normal' term time, when the rest of the class is in attendance, the weekly Parent 'Curriculum Overview Sheet' will contain information about which White Rose Maths is being covered that week, rather than it being posted on Tapestry daily. However, the teachers will endeavour to also put links on Tapestry, too, but this may be delayed due to teaching commitments.

Further Information

Further information, including links to some great online resources that can be used at home, can be found on our website: www.thelimesacademy.org/home-learning