



Willow Tree Blended Learning for National Lockdown January 2021

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions require school to be open for limited numbers. It runs alongside the Blended Learning Plan published in November 2020 for individual child or single class isolations.

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?

Your child will be sent the Blended Learning Plan for that week by email along with details of a time for a Zoom lesson on the first day of lockdown where teachers will explain the process for remote learning over the following weeks.

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 PE and Music we would be unable to follow the same curriculum but we will provide alternatives for you to follow which address the curriculum objectives but in an individual situation.

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:

Foundation Stage	There is no set time – parents should use the work provided as works best with their family. Children should join the daily Zoom lesson.
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Key Stage 1	Three hours per day
Key Stage 2	Four hours per day

Accessing remote education

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

Work for the following week will be emailed to parents each Friday afternoon. The sheet contains hyperlinks to video lessons or other activities. The times of Zoom lessons will be sent for the week although the codes will be sent on the morning of the lesson.

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 be lending Chromebooks, internet dongles and 4G Routers to pupils without access. At 20th Jan we are awaiting a further 46 devices ordered from the DFE.

All Parents have been asked to indicate if they need to borrow a device and in Year 4-6 these have been allocated at one per family to families who had no available device or were solely using a phone. A list of parents in Years 1 to 3 waiting for devices is kept.

Paper based learning packs are prepared weekly and parents unable to access online learning or those with limited access are able to pick one up each week and drop the work from the previous week off for marking.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Children are taught using a variety of approaches:

- Whole Class Zoom lessons daily
- Oak Academy Video lessons and activities
- Practical activities linked to the above
- Worksheets for deliberate practice
- Access to personalised learning platforms e.g. Spelling Shed and Sumdog
- Some small group Zoom sessions providing intervention, booster, catch-up and extension work.

The balance of such activities may differ across the school depending upon the age and needs of the children.

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?

The children in Y1 to Y6 still follow the National Curriculum. However apart from the live Zoom lessons, when in the week the children do this work should revolve around your family and what works best for you.

We have an expectation that all children engage with the learning we are providing. We will follow up where we have concerns that children are not doing school work or joining in with lessons. We take a register at the beginning of the zoom call and if we are not seeing your child on screen or receiving work from them the staff will ring you to ask if you need anything to help with this.

We are conscious of the amount of screen time the video lessons last so please do mix and match a video lesson and something more practical. Learning does not only take place in school, doing traditional subjects, we are all learning new things every day.

Our Expectation is that children should attend the daily class zoom lesson. If for any reason this is not possible you should discuss this with your child's teacher. Please can you make sure that your child always has **a pencil and paper** with them and please check the emails carefully as sometimes the children need additional resources or to have done some preparation beforehand. The children may well be given follow up work after the lesson so please do ask if they have been given anything to do. We may also send you specific work attached to the email for the lesson. The email will let you know if the child needs it for the lesson or it is to be completed after the lesson.

The following are suggestions for parents working at home with their children.

- Try to have a timetable for the week as it often helps if children can see the school day planned out for them and what to expect – we use this in every class in school. Children can help decide those things that are moveable.
- Decide as a family which hours you are going to work outside of the Zoom lessons, some may prefer the traditional school day but others work it around work needs or the weather and opportunities to be outside. Please be flexible and make it fit in with your lives.
- Break things up into small segments particularly for younger children. We never expect children to sit and work for three hours in one sitting. Have playtimes, do 20 minutes and have a break. If your child is struggling then do not force them to carry on. Have a break and come back to it.
- Please don't worry if they don't understand something after one lesson. We all need to meet the same learning over and over before it is really embedded.

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

We will expect to see children at the Zoom lessons each day. Children should be submitting work through the Class emails or if they are using paper packs via the school office. Teachers will be talking to parents and children if they feel the children are not engaging with the work to offer support.

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:

On looking at work on the Class email, teachers might send follow up work for consolidation or challenge. They might return writing for editing, this is all part of the normal teaching process so please be prepared for this to happen. Teachers all do their Marking and Feedback at different times they put aside for that purpose. They will not respond to emails after 4.30pm or at the weekend. You may not get detailed feedback from the teacher and that is also normal, teachers may give verbal feedback during the Zoom lesson, give no feedback but adjust their teaching to address any issues, or give very pointed feedback if they need a child to correct something straight away. All of this is normal teaching practice. If you have submitted some work to the class email it will be looked at but you may not always receive a response.

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 pupils who have an EHCP and who are not accessing school provision Mrs Daggett, your child's teacher and teaching assistant will be working with you to ensure all aspects of the EHCP provision are delivered remotely.

Small group Zooms are organised both to provide work from an individual Provision Plan or carry out an identified intervention programme.

Teachers will adjust the learning on the weekly Blended Learning Sheet for individual children if necessary or provide specific packs to address learning needs.