



Remote Education Information – West Malling CE Primary School and the McGinty Speech and Language Centre

January 2021

Introduction

In the event of a class bubble being sent home, or a pupil self-isolating, or a lockdown event leading to the closure of schools, our school is committed to enabling a continuation of learning for **all** our pupils.

Remote learning is best enabled via the internet. We recognise that not all families have access to this, or when parents are also working from home will face the challenge of enabling enough devices for each child. Where this is the case, we urge families to contact us so that we can support them best by providing support, a data SIM, or provide paper-based learning and work options instead.

We accept that it is not possible to replicate the breadth or pace of the school curriculum via online platforms, however, we know the importance of enabling a daily habit of learning for our children and know parents value the school's support in providing guidance, tasks and feedback.

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?

- In the first instance, pupils will be sent home with work to complete or sent learning via email from the class teacher. After this, families can expect daily information on learning on the class website page.
- The class teacher will continue to update children and families with learning each day via email, or where many children are learning from home via the class website page.
- Children should submit work via email, or by paper, to the school where feedback can be provided.

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. This curriculum is carefully planned and well-sequenced to enable all children to make small-step, incremental progression. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, our PE and Science curriculum all have practical elements and resources which cannot necessarily be replicated at home. In these cases, we will make appropriate adjustments with the aim that the learning goals remain as close to those as would be taught in school.

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 3 hours each day in KS1 and 4 hours in KS2.

It should be noted that these figures are an average, across the cohort. We know that this will be difficult to sustain for some families, for example, for our youngest students' remote learning will be practical and play based in nature, not just viewing taught lessons on screen. Our youngest children will benefit from short bursts of learning, reading and phonics, whereas our eldest Year 6 children are likely to sustain at least 4 hours of lessons or teacher directed activity.

Accessing remote education

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

There are two main sources of information:

1. The class website page - [Class Pages | West Malling Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School and Language Unit \(west-malling.kent.sch.uk\)](https://www.west-malling.kent.sch.uk)
2. Via email from the class teacher. Each class teacher and teaching assistant has an email from which to send feedback and receive work or questions from your child. The class email addresses are listed at the end of this document.

The school points to the following websites as part of its remote education programme.

[Mathletics United Kingdom | Empowering Maths Learning Online](#)

Bug Club – reading – via [ActiveLearn: Login \(activelearnprimary.co.uk\)](https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk)

The Oak National Academy [Home - Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy)

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:

- Should parents or carers need information about how we can support families with lending laptops to pupils, or access to the internet via data, they should contact office@west-malling.kent.sch.uk or call 01732 842061. Families can also call or email Mrs White. jwhite@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
- If pupils need any printed materials, parents should email the class teacher or call 01732 842061. Printed work can easily be provided to families.
- If pupils do not have online access, completed work can be passed to teachers by dropping off work to the school gates. Families should call or email ahead so that they can be met at the school gate.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

We use a range of approaches to teach pupils remotely.

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- live class gatherings and learning workshops where staff help solve pupil questions or misconceptions. Ahead of these sessions, parents will be emailed invitations to zoom meetings by the class teacher.
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences as listed above.
- some focussed short-term project work and/or internet research activities when applicable and pupils have the necessary skills to complete such tasks.

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 recognise that remote education places pressures on families, especially when adults are also working from home. Our school vision – “let your light shine” - applies here as much as anywhere. In the simplest terms, do the best that you can with the time and resources that you have. But, do not add additional stress to an already challenging situation by feeling your child MUST complete every lesson and activity offered. We recognise that remote teaching can feel challenging for some children and families and that they can miss the direction of a teacher or teaching assistant.

- We expect our eldest children to complete the English, maths and third lesson activity each day.
- We expect parents will support their children’s learning in the best way they can given the challenges of home learning and working. We expect parents will provide a place to work, a routine, and point towards the support offered by class teachers.
- It is recognised that very young pupils are likely to have needs which cannot easily be met in some of the ways described above. For such pupils, it is likely that the priority will be progress in early reading. The emphasis on using Bug Club means that our early readers have access to good quality, developmentally appropriate books via the Bug Club platform.
- We will aim to support parents, carers or other adults at home to continue to support children in their early reading, where appropriate. We will strive to provide opportunities to practise phonics content. We will also strive to provide guidance for supervising adults to ensure that time is used as productively and developmentally as possible.

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

- Class teachers and teaching assistants will monitor engagement with work and offer extra advice and support where this is low.
- Where engagement is a concern, members of the senior leadership team will work alongside families and children to navigate the issues faced. Where necessary devices, internet access, paper copies or stationery will be provided. If there is a concern this support will be available on a weekly basis.

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:

- When pupils submit their work to the class email address, they can expect feedback on this from either the class teacher or teaching assistant.
- Feedback will be offered on work at least three times each week.
- Families should note that feedback on each individual piece of work is time consuming for staff and may therefore not be immediate or offered on the same day the work is submitted.

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:

- Families with pupils with SEND should expect a high level of teacher/teaching assistant contact from the staff who support the children each day. Activities will be achievable. Advice and support will also be made available via the school's Inclusion Manager, Mrs Gay Adam gadam@west-malling.kent.sch.uk and Families and Community Manager, Mrs Jo White jwhite@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
- Families with pupils in the McGinty Speech and Language Centre will receive advice and support from the specialist staff within the setting. They are available on daisyteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk and poppyteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
- Children with EHCPs are categorised as "vulnerable" and school can offer a place within the critical worker/vulnerable provision.

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 the whole group. 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?

If a child is self-isolating, and the rest of the class bubble continues learning in school, parents should expect the offer outlined above, using lessons and resources taught in school. There will, however, be a greater reliance on pre-recorded rather than live sessions. Inevitably staff will be mainly engaged with the teaching of children in school and may only be able to provide feedback at the end of the school day.

Opportunities for remote worship

Will there be opportunities for children to be led in worship when working from home?

As a church school we value the importance of being able to come together for worship. While clearly this is more challenging when working remotely, we shall aim to provide opportunities for worship in the following ways:

- Mr Rye will lead a live worship on Zoom each Monday morning, the time and link for which will be emailed out by class teachers.
- Reverend Green will record a video worship which will be uploaded to the 'Worship' page of the school website and available to view each Thursday at a time which is convenient.
- Links to other resources for worship or reflection will be posted to the 'Worship' page on the school website.

How do I contact my child's teacher?

Teachers and teaching assistants will be available via the class email address to support children and families with their learning during the standard school day (8:45am-3:00pm). The email addresses take the following format:

Chestnut (Reception) chestnutteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk

Lime (Year 1) limeteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk

Cherry (Year 2) cherryteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk

Mulberry (Year 3) mulberryteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk

Oak (Year 4)	oakteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
Willow (Year 5)	willowteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
Ash (Year 6)	ashteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
Poppy (McGinty)	poppyteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk
Daisy (McGinty)	daisyteacher@west-malling.kent.sch.uk

Responsibility

At West Malling CE Primary School and The McGinty Speech and Language Centre Mr David Rye (Acting Headteacher) is the person with overarching responsibility for the quality and delivery of remote education.

He is supported in this responsibility by Mrs Julia Lyall (Key Stage Two Lead), Mrs Delyth Woodhouse (Key Stage One Lead) and Mrs Babs Bartholomew (Speech and Language Centre Lead).