



## REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION

Discovery Special Academy

Tees Valley Education Trust

Version:	1.0
Date issued:	
Target audience:	All staff, parents and carers

## **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?**

Remote education provision will be made available immediately with work that can be completed independently. This may involve some or all of the following: -

- Paper packs of work - including books, paper, worksheets, pens, crayons etc
- Access to work / videos on the website, or Showbie activities
- Access to resources through Spelling Shed or Times Tables Rock Stars
- Personalised activities to support your child's learning, sensory, emotional and physical development
- Directed to readily available free online resources
- Regular contact from teaching staff to support you in accessing all resources and to talk about how you and your child are managing with this

## **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 will continue to offer a personalised curriculum for your child as we do in school focused on personalised targets and holistic development wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example: -

- PE will be different and appropriate activities will be shared with you
- Science may be different i.e. modelled by staff by video
- Practical work where it can't be adapted to the home, e.g. design technology

## **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:

Reception/Informal	2 hours a day
Semi-formal	3 hours a day

## **Accessing remote education**

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

- Showbie
- School made videos uploaded onto our website
- Teacher made resources
- Regular contact with teaching staff

## **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:

Wherever possible we will loan laptops or tablets to pupils. Parents can contact the academy for more information.

If required we can support with internet connection and parents are encouraged to let their academy know of required.

Several mobile phone providers have offered to upgrade existing 4G allowances free of charge during the pandemic.

Printed materials are provided as standard, if more are required these will be sent directly to the families.

Children can submit their work to their teachers via the digital platforms, or on a fortnightly basis when new printed materials are delivered/collected.

## **How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

The academy will provide remote teaching via one or more of the following channels;

- live video / phone discussions with teachers every week
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers
- text and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- Activities to promote sensory, physical and emotional wellbeing

## 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 academy provides support to children and their families through the following: -

- Expectation of children – to engage with activities with the support of their parents/carers
- Parental support can be very varied, for example:
  - setting routines to support your child's education
  - setting up IT equipment and routers
  - accessing home learning
- seeking support from teaching staff when needed
- sensory and emotional regulation support

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

Discovery Special Academy will monitor and check all engagement with remote education on a daily basis through Showbie and on a weekly basis via phone contact with families.

Teaching and pastoral staff will make a phone call to support parents and carers to offer guidance if they are struggling to access remote learning.

Academies will monitor engagement and impact so we can act on any barriers for learning.

### 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. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

Assessment and feedback of children's work will be via the following

- Feedback via Showbie
- Touch base phone calls
- Where appropriate evidence will be added to Evidence for Learning
- Work sent back in will be marked and feedback given

Children will receive feedback on their work as it is completed

## **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:

Remote education for children with SEND involves some, or all, of the following:-

- Teacher videos of sharing a story
- Teacher videos sharing communication support
- Showbie, sharing ideas and support
- Where children have EAL there is an interpreter button on the website to ensure equal access.
- Class pages on academy website are designed to ensure that the content is appropriate to their cognitive ability.
- We will arrange for resources that are linked to their cognitive ability.
- Suggestions for online resources that are suitable for their child's needs
- Regular contact with parents and carers to offer support and guidance on accessing remote learning as well as support with social and emotional needs

## **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?**

Should a child be self-isolating they will continue to access personalised activities focused on their holistic development as described above.