



# Bellingham Middle School

## **Remote Education Provision:** Information for Parents and Carers

January 2021

## Introduction

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 entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home. In January 2021, the government announced that remote provision should equate to:

- KS2: 4 hours per day
- KS3: 5 hours per day

Our remote learning provision for whole school closure caters for this guidance, whilst aiming to support parents who are having to balance working from home with also having to give attention to the educational development of their child. We fully appreciate that the change to a virtual school brings with it different challenges for parents. Therefore, we are continually reviewing and updating our provision in line with the newest developments, ensuring a continuity and quality of teaching and curriculum that endeavours to be inline with that which would be taught at school. Our priority is to ensure that the children can complete learning activities that will aid their progression and for staff to be able to successfully manage the feedback and marking workload this creates, amidst their own family care duties.

## 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 day or two of pupils being sent home, they will have work given to them by their teachers so that they can begin immediately at home until remote learning tasks are available online.

### 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, practical subjects such as Art, DT, FT may need to adapt their curriculum to compensate for practical-based lessons.

## 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:

Key Stage 2	4 hours (including both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently)
Key Stage 3	5 hours (including both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently)

### Timetabling of lessons:

All teachers will set work for the pupils in their classes. The work set should follow the usual timetable for the class had they been in school, wherever possible. Work for the following week will be placed in 'classrooms' each Friday afternoon, so that pupils can see the title of their tasks. However, they will not be able to complete the tasks until the teacher has 'assigned' them on that particular day. This process is to help our pupils develop a routine/timetable of work completion, similar to being in school.

	<b>Outline of learning</b>	<b>Priority Subjects</b> – should your child be struggling to complete all learning each day, please see below our suggestion of how to prioritise subjects.
<b>KS2</b> Y5 / Y6	Daily English lesson Daily Maths lesson 3 x weekly Science lessons 2 x weekly PE lessons Weekly foundation subjects: History, Geography, PSHE, RE, French, Computing, ADT or FT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Live online sessions</li><li>2. English, Maths lessons</li><li>3. Science</li><li>4. Foundation subjects</li></ol>
<b>KS3</b> Y7 / Y8	4 x weekly English lessons 4 x weekly Maths lessons 3 x weekly Science lessons 2 x weekly French lessons 2 x weekly PE lessons Weekly foundation subjects: History, Geography, PSHE, RE, Computing, ADT or FT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Live online sessions</li><li>2. English, Maths lessons</li><li>3. Science</li><li>4. Foundation subjects</li></ol>

## Accessing remote education

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

#### Google Classroom:

Google classroom is the platform we are using to set work and provide feedback. Pupils are able to ask their teacher questions using their 'classrooms' as well as email staff individually using their 360 email.

Links to live online lessons (using Zoom) will also be posted here in their 'classroom stream' pages. There will be notifications posted by your child's subject teacher on the class stream as to when these are scheduled.

#### Zoom:

Zoom gives teachers the opportunity to lead live lessons and for children to interact with each other and their teacher. If pupils are unable to attend the Zoom lesson, it will be recorded and added to the Google classroom.

#### My Maths:

My Maths is used to set the majority of maths work as it is interactive and provides pupils with quick feedback regarding correct and incorrect answers.

### If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

In-line with the government's initiative to support those families with either limited access to technology or internet connection, we are able to loan laptops for the duration of school closure or individual self-isolating periods. The government has also introduced a Data Allowance Scheme. The purpose is to ensure that families have adequate internet connection and sufficient data allowance to access remote learning resources and lessons. Please contact the school office for more information should you require it.

Only if all avenues of support for online learning have been explored and pupils can still not work online, will we then provide paper copies to complete at home; these will be printed on a weekly basis for collection from the school office. We ask that the previous week's learning is returned so your child's subject teacher is able to mark it.

## How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Lesson-by-lesson sequenced activities in Google classroom, with links to learning and clear expectations.
- Live teaching (online lessons) using Zoom.
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers).
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have been sent through the post.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.
- Long-term project work and competitions for more practical subjects.

## 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?

Staff will expect Parents and Carers to:

- Support their child/children to complete work to the deadline set by teachers.
- Set daily routines so that children have clear expectations.
- Seek help if they need it, from teachers and support staff. Our school office will be staffed every day with either our Office Manager or a member of SLT. Parents are also welcome to email the headteacher directly:  
Lindsay.Hamilton2@school360.co.uk
- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise can't complete work.
- Seek help from the school if they need it – this includes the loan of IT devices.
- Be respectful if they feel the need to complain or express concerns to staff.

#### Complaints or Concerns:

Any complaints or concerns shared by parents or pupils should be reported to the Headteacher. Any safeguarding concerns should be referred immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mr Ramshaw. The DSL is responsible for managing and dealing with all safeguarding concerns. For further information, please see the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

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

A priority of our Remote Provision is to ensure children engage in their learning. Therefore, engagement will be monitored closely by all subject teachers on a weekly basis. The Senior Leadership Team will then monitor the submission of work on a fortnightly basis with the following steps in place should there be a lack of engagement:

- Step 1:** Subject teacher to monitor submission of work on a weekly basis and attempt to contact pupils via email on School 360 for lack of submission of work.
- Step 2:** Referred to Senior Leadership Team via monitoring spreadsheet to make contact.
- Step 3:** Referred to NCC Education Welfare Officer (Rachel Bell) for contact including possible home visits.

## 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:

personal, individual written comments sent to pupils in Google classroom

- whole class written feedback in Google classroom on the 'stream' pages
- verbal feedback given during live online lessons

All pieces of work indicate a 'due date' indicating when work will be looked at and assessed so that pupils are aware when feedback will be given.

## **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:

- Provide 1:1 live sessions with a SEN teaching assistant dedicated to that child
- Loaning resources from school to be used at home
- Offering THRIVE 'catch ups'
- SEN learning assistant contacts families weekly, either via phone call or video call
- Offer parents practical suggestions to complete activities

During this time, the SENDCO will:

- Liaise with families and staff to ensure that the technology used for remote learning is accessible to all pupils and that reasonable adjustments are made where required.
- Ensure that pupils with EHC plans continue to have their needs met while learning remotely, and liaising with the Headteacher and other organisations to make any alternate arrangements for pupils with EHC plans and IHPs as required, identifying the level of support.