

# **St Joseph's Catholic Infant School**

## **Remote Learning Offer**

### **Introduction to Remote Learning**

At St Joseph's we recognise that the consequences of the pandemic can be a particularly difficult time for children and families, and that Remote Learning will not look the same for each of our families.

We know that circumstances will differ greatly, whether it be their own working situation (and therefore their ability to support their children), access to technology/printers etc. or any number of other variables in these challenging times.

Therefore, in recognising this, we know that we need to ensure that our provision meets the needs of ALL of our children and families, and promotes overall well-being.

With this in mind, feedback from staff, parents and pupils has been used to develop Remote Learning that is accessible to all and is aligned as closely as possible to our in-school curriculum.

The information that follows is intended to provide clarity and transparency to children and parents/carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions/events require pupils to remain at home.

It outlines what our provision will be, how we intend to support children/families to access online resources (as well as those without access to technology to support online learning) and what the expectations for both children and parents will be.

Being educated remotely might look different from our standard approach. This would also apply in the event of any complete National Lockdown.

Any information in this Offer is subject to current legislation and guidance. Aspects of this offer may therefore be unavailable, subject to alteration or removal, and any consideration of this offer must be carried out with this in mind.

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### THE REMOTE CURRICULUM: WHAT IS TAUGHT TO PUPILS AT HOME

#### What should my child expect from Remote Education?

During Remote Education school-aged pupils will learn broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school. Work will align to school learning ensuring that the child/ren access their Year group curriculum, via the school website and online platforms, or via printed copies on request.

Learning activities will be provided, aligned to what is being taught in class. This will be prepared by staff and then placed on the school website on a weekly basis.

We also recommend that home learning includes plenty of daily free, unstructured play activities of your child's choice and opportunities for physical development (sport, dancing, walking) to help promote well-being.

Pre-School children will be provided with home learning activities.

### REMOTE TEACHING AND STUDY TIME EACH DAY

#### How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

A time guide will be provided in the weekly learning with plans and activities to help you structure learning at home. Parents can make changes to this to suit personal circumstances or contact class teachers if needing support with structuring learning.

The DfE states that for Primary school-aged pupils:

*"When teaching pupils remotely, we expect schools to:*

- *set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects*
- *set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school:*

*In a Primary: 3 hours a day, on average, for Key Stage 1*

Structure to the day is important and generally, in school lessons range from 20 minutes to an hour.

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Each child is different and may well work differently at home to how they would work in school. Some may need to focus in the morning and others may need shorter periods of 20-30 minutes across the day, split up by breaks.

As a guide this is what we think might help children in different year groups – but please remember each child is unique and it is about finding out what works best for them.

**Pre-School:** Children are not expected to sit still for long periods of adult led learning. Children of this age learn best in short play based activities. As an idea, plan 2 to 3 sessions of adult led learning of no more than 10 minutes per day.

**Reception:** Children should spend up to 3 hours a day on adult led and play based learning. Children learn through play activities and these should include many opportunities for communicating – speaking and listening to/with adults and siblings. As well, give your child plenty of time to play at activities of their own choosing – this is also part of the Early Years curriculum and promotes their well-being and independence.

**Year One:** 20-30 minutes at a time of learning with free time. Learning through play and everyday activities is still important for this age group.

**Year Two:** 30-40 minutes of learning at a time during the day. This would include a 5-10 minute discussion or recap of what your child already knows from learning in school on the topic, and they can then complete an activity related to this for 20-30 minutes, followed by a break.

It is important to allow some break or 'free time' between each learning session to ensure you get the best out of your child and maximise their learning."

### ACCESSING REMOTE EDUCATION

#### How will my child access any online learning?

Using our school website as a portal, staff provide weekly learning for the children in their class that is aligned with the Year Group curriculum.

Lessons are provided which cater specifically for our children and their differing needs and abilities, with clear instruction/direction provided.

#### To access your child's remote learning on the school website:

- From the Homepage, click the tab on the menu bar that says **LEARNING**.
- Scroll down to the tab that says '**Weekly Learning**'

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- Choose your child's year group and then the week you are looking for

Reception: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Reception-Weekly-update/>

Year One: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Weekly-updates-Year-1/>

Year Two: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Weekly-updates-Year-2/>

Weekly Learning for Pre-School is located under the Pre-School tab on the website:  
<https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Pre-School/Learning/>

### DIGITAL ACCESS AND RESOURCES

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

We fully recognise that some children/families may not have suitable online access at home. We ask families to let us know if they are experiencing difficulty with accessing remote education and we will investigate how we can help.

We take the following approaches to support these children to access remote education:

#### **Provision of printed copies**

Work provided on the website can be provided to identified children/families. These will be sent home with children or can be collected from the school office.

#### **Provision of workbooks**

Workbooks, as appropriate, will be provided for identified children/families. These will be sent home with children, delivered directly to homes or can be collected from the school office.

*\*Where children cannot submit work back to their teacher online/remotely, if staff request it, it can be dropped off at school. It will be quarantined for 48 hours before being looked at by the teacher\**

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### **Provision of laptops**

Pre-Schools and KS1 have not been included in the Government scheme to support families with IT needs.

We have a small number of iPads available (subject to availability) to support children identified as eligible to access remote learning. (These will remain the property of our school).

We are not able to provide additional IT equipment (wireless routers/dongles etc).

The school will endeavour to signpost families to local, commercial and national schemes where they may find support.

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

As part of our provision, teachers will provide learning opportunities using a range of online platforms. Teachers may use a combination of any of the following to teach pupils remotely:

- Powerpoint presentations,
- instructional guides/plans,
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, BBC links, video/audio recordings made by teachers),
- live learning – including: staff recorded presentations, links to online presentations and/or recordings, such as Oak Academy or BBC Bitesize online lessons, as well as some live lessons - (however we are very aware that this is not necessarily the most effective way to teach all of our children),
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences - e.g. Charanga (Music) sessions
- printed paper packs, produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets), for identified children

Resources used by the school can be seen below:

### **The Home Learning Booklet**

A booklet that supports the development of skills and learning specific to the age of children in our school. It helps parents to focus on the learning that can be achieved from everyday activities and which does not rely on being able to access IT.

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### Weekly Learning Plans

The weekly plans provide a range of activities to undertake at home. They are uploaded to the school website each week.

***You can find the plans by following the year group link:***

Pre-School: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Pre-School/Learning/>

Reception: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Reception-Weekly-update/>

Year 1: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Weekly-updates-Year-1/>

Year 2: <https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/Weekly-updates-Year-2/>

### For school children:

#### Oak National Academy

You can find recorded videos lessons on this government backed learning website set up in response to the first national lockdown. Teachers will signpost you to appropriate lessons in the weekly learning plans or you can search for lessons by the year group your child is in.



**Access at:** <https://www.thenational.academy/>

#### Purple Mash

Purple Mash is an online learning platform with an exciting mix of curriculum focused activities, creative tools, programs and games to support and inspire creative learning. Teachers can set tasks for children and leave feedback on submitted work.



**Log in with individual user details at:**

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/stjosephshp21>

#### Rising Stars Online Library

Rising Stars online library allows you to access school reading books for your child at home in the form of e-books. Teachers will assign reading books to your child's individual library based on their current reading level. A short quiz is available at the end of each book your child completes to also



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support the development of their comprehension skills. Children are rewarded with stars on completion.

**Log in with individual user details at:** <https://my.risingstars-uk.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

### #ThisIsPE

To support parents to teach PE at home we use

'#ThisIsPE' videos which focus on aspect of the National PE Curriculum. The videos are delivered by PE teachers and will help children and young people to continue their skill development in PE during the period when they are not in school.



## 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?

In accordance with our Remote Learning Policy

Staff will expect parents supporting pupils learning remotely to:

- Make best efforts to complete the work/activities
- Seek help if needed from staff
- Alert teachers if they are not able to complete work.

Staff can expect parents with children learning remotely to:

- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise cannot complete work (for school records)
- Seek help from the school if they need it, including informing staff/school if they are unable to access 'remote learning provision'.
- Be respectful when asking questions and/or making any complaints or concerns known to staff.

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### E-SAFETY & BEHAVIOUR

#### How can I help my child learn safely at home?

We have put together some guidance to help you with learning at home. It can help you to understand our expectations whilst you are learning from home, provide you with information about how to stay physically and mentally well, and give you some useful tips for staying safe online.



Child-Friendly Remote Learning Handout – please click:  
[https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/docs/Child-Friendly\\_Remote\\_Learning\\_Handout\\_2020.pdf](https://www.stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk/docs/Child-Friendly_Remote_Learning_Handout_2020.pdf)

#### It is important that you:

- Take regular breaks from schoolwork (e.g. every hour, take a ten-minute break).
- Set some small goals for each day.

#### Agreements

Children are expected to follow St Joseph's Internet Safety Rules, which children/parents signed when joining our school, whilst using any of the Online Learning Platforms provided by the school.

Please also refer to the Home School Agreement contract that you and your child signed when you started at our school.

All online platforms provided to children at this time are monitored by the school and inappropriate behaviour will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant policies (Behaviour, Internet Safety Rules, E-Safety, Home School Agreements etc). You can view these on the school website (scroll down to policies)

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/keeping-young-children-safe-online>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>



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<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/article-internet-use-and-safety>

### COMMUNICATION

#### **How will parents and school communicate about progress?**

Alongside the provision of learning materials on the website, the school will provide clear expectation of if, how and when work should be submitted.

**Online** - This could be via Purple Mash (directly submitted or a photo sent), within an online platform (Charanga) or in an email. Staff are able to see what has been submitted, and when, and will be monitoring.

**Telephone calls** - Teachers will hold regular telephone calls with the children and parents in their class during any prolonged isolation period. This will allow staff to monitor any issues and address them directly (as appropriate).

Calls will usually consist of '*orientation*' calls at the start of a period, establishing that children are ok, sharing information and explaining any work set. This will then be followed up by '*catch-up*' calls, which will happen every other week. These calls will focus on addressing any issues, misconceptions and provide opportunities for participants to ask questions and discuss next steps.

Part of the nature of these calls is to monitor engagement and identify any concerns about children's well-being/welfare.

Where concerns arise, staff will make frequent contact with the parents directly by phone to establish whether everything is ok and how they can help to ensure that the child accesses remote learning successfully.

#### **Emails -**

We have set up email accounts for each of the year groups and these will enable you to communicate with class staff when you need to.

Pre-School: [ps@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:ps@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

Reception: [yearR@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:yearR@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

Year One: [year1@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:year1@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

Year Two: [year2@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:year2@stjosephsrcinfant.bucks.sch.uk)

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### ASSESSING PROGRESS

#### **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 children's work is as follows:

We may use the provision within Purple Mash to offer direct comments/feedback to children, on any work submitted via that platform. This could be work done within the platform (2dos/activities) or emailed word documents/photos etc.

Staff may use the Purple Mash function to give personal comment/feedback and verbal (recorded) feedback can also be offered, allowing children to hear their teacher's voice directly. Children can make their own comments, as well as seeing teacher's comments on all their work.

Further to this, we will utilise the school website and class emails to offer more generic feedback, provide direct comments/feedback and telephone calls to discuss both work and well-being.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

The information above can also be found within the range of documents that we have produced in response to the need for Remote Learning. These ensure that we are compliant with all DfE guidance/expectations and that all of our stakeholders (Children, Parents, Staff, STCAT Local Academy Committee, Local Authority etc) have access to the information they need.

- Remote Learning Policy
- Remote Learning Parent Guide
- School Website
- Learning from home booklet