



Frome Valley CE First School

Remote Education Information 2026-28

1. Remote education provision: information for parents

The DfE (Department for Education) have asked all schools that where a class, group of pupils, or individual pupils need to self-isolate due to COVID-19, or there are local or national restrictions requiring pupils to remain at home, schools are expected to provide immediate access to remote education.

As a school, we have decided to start using 'Microsoft Teams' to access learning whilst at home. It will be used every week for home learning (Assignments) and messages. Microsoft Teams will also be used to support any child that has to remain at home while self-isolating. If your child is self-isolating you will be contacted by the school to inform you that daily home learning will be in your child's Microsoft Teams Class, ready for them to access. This is our first step on our journey towards 'Blended Learning' – teaching children in the class and at home, if needed.

What is Microsoft Teams?

Microsoft Teams is a free Microsoft App/site that aims to simplify creating, distributing and assessing learning in a paperless way. Teachers can use Microsoft Teams to send announcements to entire classes, share resources, lesson notes, inputs, diagrams, and home learning. Children can use it to access work covered in class in school, at home or on the go and complete home learning. Parents can use some of the features of Microsoft Teams to help engage with and support children in their home learning. It is a free resource that can be accessed from any device connected to the internet – laptops, desktop computers, tablets or mobile phones. If you do not have the technology for this, please contact the school office.

Microsoft Teams has a number of different uses and benefits:

- Teachers can use it to set classwork/home learning tasks.
- Teachers can upload and save files which children can access both in and out of school.
- Frequently used website links can be shared on Teams which allows pupils quick and easy access.
- Microsoft Teams is a FREE website/app which is part of the free Microsoft suite of educational resources (i.e. Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Forms etc.) This can be downloaded free from your regular app store. (It can also be accessed through a web browser such as Internet Explorer, Google Chrome or Firefox).
- Children can discuss classwork/home learning and can collaborate together on tasks.
- It encourages and develops our children's' digital literacy – many organisations, places of work, universities and secondary schools also use Microsoft Teams.
- Children can upload work for the teacher to see and feedback on.

2. The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent 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.

We would share this information through Microsoft Teams, as this is the quickest way for you to access work, resources and important information. If you are unable to access Teams, we will send work home for your child to complete.

This work will often focus on practising and reinforcing key skills rather than introducing new learning. Regular practice of these essential skills is vital in supporting all children's progress and development.

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?

Here at Frome Valley CE First School, we know that there has been much disruption to children's education. We are committed to ensuring that all children continue to receive the same quality of education that they would have during full opening.

The remote learning set for children will be in line with the learning that would take place in the classroom so the teachers will provide resources that deliver the main aspects of the curriculum plan.

The remote learning set by the teachers will follow the long-term curriculum plan for their class so that the children can continue to access the relevant curriculum for their year. Teachers will provide adapted learning resources for children with additional learning needs i.e. SEND or where English is an additional language.

The governors and senior leadership team at Frome Valley CE First School are fully aware that these are exceptional times and each family is unique. Because of this we will approach remote learning in a way that suits individual need.

3. 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:

Primary school-aged pupils	<i>(Number of hours – there are <u>minimum expectations for remote provision</u>)</i> For Reception children, we would expect you to be supporting your child's learning for about 2 hours per day.
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	• For KS1 pupils (Year 1&2), for about 3 hours per day. • For KS2 pupils (Years 3&4), for about 3-4 hours per day.
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4. Accessing remote education

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

Your child will access any online remote education through Microsoft Teams. This is a secure platform that will only be accessible to children within the class. Any live lessons or online teaching sessions will be accessed through Teams.

In each class Team are links to their regular useful websites, i.e. Read Write Inc Phonics, Spelling Seeds, Times Tables Rockstars and more. This is to make it easier for the children so that they can access school links all from one place, Microsoft Teams.

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 use DfE initiatives when available (e.g. laptops for vulnerable children) to help support families with devices.
- We will use DfE initiatives when available (e.g. increased data allowances for mobile devices) to help support internet access.
- We will provide printed materials in a home learning pack for any family that cannot access online learning. Parents can take a photograph of the completed work at home and email it to the class email account or through Microsoft.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- There will be live teaching (online lessons) 2 or 3 times per day. Either before or after the live teaching session, there will be work for the child to complete. This work is generally sent home as a paper copy in the home learning packs which are sent home every two weeks
- Other lessons may link to websites to read content or may link to a recorded lesson from an educational site (E.g. Oak Academy) or may link to a video or PowerPoint.
- There will still be a focus of some practising of key skills too e.g. the spelling of common exception words or practising times tables.

5. 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?

For online lessons (live lessons), we expect parents to be present during the lesson. Many parents choose to sit by their child during these lessons for KS1 and Reception pupils. We would then expect parents to support children in completing their work linked to this lesson.

There are other times, when older children may be able to complete a task independently. Parents may just need to start the child off on their task and check the learning with the child when the task is complete.

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

- We will keep a register of attendance for online learning sessions and will contact parents to support them in accessing these sessions. During live sessions, the class teacher will monitor pupils' engagement, just as they would during lessons in school.
- Parents and teachers can communicate through Microsoft Teams if they have any concerns about a pupil's engagement with remote education.
- If a child is not accessing online lessons, the class teacher will contact the family each week to discuss engagement and progress and offer any necessary 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 bac

- We will assess children's work and progress within online lessons through questioning and observing the pupil's answers (e.g. as they write an answer on their whiteboard). We will also give feedback within the lesson.
- Flashback Fives are used in most online lessons as a way of monitoring knowledge and progress. We continually refer to previous learning in Flashback Fives to ensure that the learning is in the long term memory.
- Children can return their completed work through Microsoft Teams.

6. 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:

- Children with an EHCP are prioritised to attend school during a national lockdown.
- During isolation of a 'bubble', the class teacher will support the remote education of a pupil with SEN through online learning by asking targeted questions and providing targeted work to complete. As necessary, we would discuss an individual programme of support for the child by telephoning the parent or by signposting the child to individual work from a national site (e.g. Oak Academy)
- Remote education FOR younger pupils (Reception and Year 1 pupils) is in line with other classes.

7. 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?

- If a whole class is self-isolating as a bubble, we will revert to the online learning as described above.
- If one child is self-isolating due to a positive test in their family, we will place learning activities on Microsoft- Teams.
- We will deliver or post this pack if the family cannot access Microsoft Teams.

8. Monitoring and review

This report is reviewed every two years by the Head of School. Any changes will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.

The scheduled review date for this policy is **July 2028**