



Whitmore Park Primary School

Remote Learning Guidance for Parents



Remote Learning

At Whitmore Park, we will provide high quality Remote Learning for all children who are self-isolating at home. This is so that the children can continue with the same level of learning at home as the children in school and will help them to stay on track with their learning whilst they are self-isolating. The Department for Education have set high expectations for children learning at home such as schools providing access to the full curriculum and a full day's lessons. We will provide this and support parents and children to do their very best to achieve it whilst learning from home.

We will provide:

- daily English lessons including reading, writing, spelling or grammar
- daily maths lessons including Maths No Problem lessons and arithmetic lessons
- weekly lessons for all of the other lessons that we are teaching in school

We also expect the children to continue reading at least 5 times a week, practise handwriting at home, practise times tables on Times Table Rockstars and complete reading questions on Oxford Reading Buddy.

If you can provide the following, it will help your child to concentrate on their learning and do their very best:

- a quiet space to work
- a table to work at with all of their equipment at hand
- avoid distractions by turning the television off
- timings for the day, for example work on English and Maths in the morning and other lessons in the afternoon
- include breaks and opportunities for some physical exercise within the day

Lessons

The lessons will include:

- the expected learning outcome for the lesson
- the vocabulary used in the lesson
- lesson explanations of how to complete the work
- videos or worked examples to demonstrate the main teaching point of the lesson
- task for the children to complete

Lessons will be available on the **Showbie** learning platform each day for **Y3,4,5 + 6** and you will find them in the folder system organised by the date they should be completed. This is a change from last year when all of the children used Seesaw.

In **Years 1 + 2** the lessons will be loaded as one file for the week for English and one file for maths with each day's lesson clearly indicated on the **Seesaw** learning platform.

Children should complete their work in their Remote Learning book, Maths No Problem workbook or directly onto Showbie or Seesaw. If children complete their work in the Maths No Problem workbook or Remote learning exercise book, please take a photograph of the work and upload it to Showbie or Seesaw so teachers can provide feedback.

Feedback on learning

Teachers will provide daily feedback on the children's learning on Showbie or Seesaw. As well as marking correct work and providing positive feedback, they will address any errors that the children have made, help them to correct the work and provide next steps to support.

Guidance for parents

We will provide guidance sheets and videos for parents to help you to support your children's learning at home. These will be sent home in the Remote learning pack and also be available on the website.

Access to IT

If you do not have access to the internet or a suitable device (phones are not suitable devices) for your child to work on at home, please contact the school. We may be able to loan you a device for your child to use at home wherever we can make them available. We are also looking into the availability of reasonably priced devices that you may be able to purchase. We will provide paper copies of the lessons so that your child can continue to work on the same lessons as those with access to IT.

Communication

The class teacher will keep daily communication with the children through Showbie or Seesaw and may phone as well. If your child is not using Showbie or Seesaw, the class teacher or another member of school staff will make regular phone calls to check on how learning is going at home, provide motivation or encouragement and help to solve any problems. Please note that when a member of school staff calls it may come up on your screen as 'no caller ID'.

The FAQs sheet below should provide clarity for some questions/queries you may have. However, please speak to your child's class teacher if you need further guidance.

My child has to self-isolate, what happens next?

- Phone the school admin team
- The class teacher will be informed and you will be provided with a pack with a Maths No Problem text book and workbook, a 'Remote Learning' exercise book, a pencil case, log ins for Showbie, Oxford Reading Buddy and Times Table Rock Stars, parent guidance sheets, English and maths guidance sheets, Showbie guidance sheets.
- Arrange a time to collect your child's Remote Learning pack or request it to be delivered to home if required.
- A member of staff will be in contact to check how Remote Learning is going.

My child has been sent home to self-isolate, what happens next?

- Your child will bring home a pack with a Maths No Problem text book and workbook, a 'Remote Learning' exercise book, a pencil case, log ins for Showbie, Oxford Reading Buddy and Times Table Rock Stars, parent guidance sheets, English and maths guidance sheets, Showbie guidance sheets.
- A member of staff will be in contact to check how Remote Learning is going.

Why are there different learning platforms for Years 1 and 2 and Years 3,4,5 +6?

Seesaw is a simpler platform for younger children to use and parents and children are used to using it during the lockdown. It is used from Nursery, Reception to Years 1 and 2.

Showbie has a wider range of tools more appropriate for children in Year 3,4,5 and 6. Children and teachers can use voice feedback, the work can be organised in files, children and teachers can use classroom chat rooms for feedback and discussion and teachers can set interactive quizzes to support children's recall of facts and for assessment.

You will have already received your child's login for either platform. We will ensure you have another copy in the Remote Learning pack, which will be made available to you. The children have all been taught how to use the different platforms in school and should be familiar with them.

What is in the Remote Learning pack?

- An exercise book, a pencil case with stationary, Maths No Problem workbook, Maths No Problem textbook, a reading book
- Login details for online learning
- Help sheets for children and parents

What is included within the lesson?

- All work will be clearly labelled with the name of the year group, subject, lesson number and date. The date on the work will be the date work should be completed on e.g.

Year 3, History, Romans, Autumn Term, Lesson 3, 21.9.20

- A key vocabulary page which will define some of the important words introduced in the lesson

- Questions and prompts for you/your child to read to develop learning
- Video links, explanations of how to do the task, pictures, chart, diagrams where appropriate

How can I support my child at home?

- Check your child can access the correct lessons
- Read through lessons provided (see subject help sheets for more detailed support) and explain what work has been set
- Provide a quiet space to work in, free from distractions such as a television
- Ensure they use their pencil case and exercise books (provided by school)
- Some children work best when listening to calm instrumental music
- Ensure your child has a glass of water and takes comfort breaks
- Try to establish a routine for learning.

How much work should my child complete and when?

- Children should complete work on a daily basis.
- Maths (Maths No Problem and arithmetic) and English (reading and writing, spelling or grammar) work daily.
- Work should be uploaded by 3:30pm for feedback on the day (any work uploaded later than this may not be looked at until the next day)
- Children working in books can take a photograph of their work and upload it onto Seesaw/Showbie
- Children not uploading work onto Seesaw/Showbie should have their work brought back to school weekly (it will need to be left for 48 hours before being marked by the teacher)
- Other subjects such as Science, History, Geography or Art to be completed in line with what children are currently learning in school.
- It is best for children to complete these on the days identified where practically possible.
- Children should complete work in order and should not skip lessons or move onto lessons planned for later in the week.

Will my child have access to the same work as the children still learning in school?

- Yes, teachers will upload their lesson presentations and other resources electronically (paper copies can also be made available).

Will my child be able to speak to their class teacher?

- Class teachers will be in regular contact via the online learning platforms. Teachers will also phone children to check in on their learning, particularly children working on paper copies.
- Children can ask questions about their work using the learning platform (Seesaw/Showbie)
- We will provide opportunities for classroom chat rooms with teachers via Showbie for older children to ask questions directly to teachers.

Will my child still have homework to complete?

Commented [JP1]: @Michael McCormick can you change this to reflect the conversation with Sue? Then we should be finished.

- No, although we expect children to continue reading for pleasure 5 times a week and practise handwriting, Times Tables and reading questions on Oxford Reading Buddy.

Can I change my child's reading book?

- Yes. It would be important to contact the school's admin team to arrange for the collection of a new book. Where possible, we would advise taking advantage of the books available on your child's Oxford Reading Buddy (ORB) account as this is online. Teachers will also be able to track your child's progress more effectively using the ORB analysis tools they have access to.

How do I know if my child is completing the correct work for their ability?

- Children's learning in school is differentiated to meet varying ability needs. To support parents/carers all of the independent tasks your child should complete will be labelled:
 - Must (all children must be able to achieve)
 - Most (most children will be able to achieve)
 - Might (some children might be able to achieve)
- The vast majority of children will complete 'Most' tasks and some children may move on to 'Might' challenges if they are able to.
- 'Must' work is the entry level work for the lesson.
- It is common for children to have different strengths in different subjects meaning a child may complete 'Most' work in one subject and 'Must' work in another.

Will my child's work be marked, and how?

On Seesaw and Showbie

- Teachers will mark work before your child's next lesson in each subject. This will be each day for Maths and English lessons. For subjects not taught every day (e.g. History) teachers will mark the work before the next lesson, not necessarily the day it is completed.
- The teachers will mark, correct work and provide positive feedback, they will identify any errors that the children have made, help them to correct the work and provide next steps to support.
- Your child may be given some of the answers to their work at the end of a lesson. Children can choose to mark this themselves, if they wish. This is something children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 are used to doing in lessons where there is a clear right or wrong answer such as maths or grammar. Teachers will still check your child's work.

Marking paper copies

- Please return paper copies to school for marking. Teachers will give verbal feedback over the phone. (The work will need to be quarantined for 48 hours before teachers mark it).

In school, teachers mark using various symbols that the children know and understand.

Will I need to notify the school if my child is too ill to work?

- Please contact the school's admin team if your child is unwell and they will inform the class teacher.

Can my child get ahead and complete work for later in the week?

- No, it is vital children only complete the work in the days recorded on their lesson pdfs/PowerPoint
- Children should not rush ahead and complete additional work

My child is well and at school, can they complete school work on Seesaw/Showbie?

- No, children still learning at school should not complete work on Seesaw/Showbie as they will be doing it in school
- Children should only complete their weekly homework given by the class teacher on their online learning platform.

For further information from the Department for Education on Remote learning, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

This guidance aims to provide you with practical support if your child needs to work from home. Please see the school's Remote Learning Policy (on the school website) if you would like to read more about the school's strategy.