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 where national or 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.

What is Bluecoat Primary's approach to remote education?

We believe it is vital that children's education can continue at home during the period of school closures. Over the period of their absence, we will provide work daily via Seesaw so that children are able to take part in similar lessons as they would have ordinarily been doing in school.

Home Learning will be set using 'Seesaw activities'. To access this, you will need sign in using a laptop, computer or mobile device. If using a phone or tablet you will need to download the 'Seesaw Class app'. Please note that this is different to the Seesaw Family app that we use for regular communication. If your child is using a computer or laptop for home learning, you will not need to download an additional app as learning can be accessed on a web browser by following this link: https://app.seesaw.me

You or your child will then need to sign into See-saw by clicking "I'm a Student" and enter their unique home learning code or by scanning their QR code. You will find your child's seesaw log in details stuck in their reading diary and a copy in their home learning resource packs. Please see the step by step instructions and troubleshooting FAQs overleaf at the end of this document for more details. If you are still struggling with signing in to 'seesaw class' to access home learning please direct message your child's class teacher on seesaw family or contact the school office.

Why Seesaw?

Seesaw is a familiar online communication and learning platform for our school community. All of our families are connected using the 'Seesaw family app' and many of you will already be familiar with 'Seesaw Class', having accessed homework activities on this platform over the last few months. Children will also feel confident signing in and accessing lessons via Seesaw as we do this regularly in school.

The advantage of using seesaw as a platform for online delivery is that teachers can teach and model tricky concepts as well as break down lessons into more manageable chunks. Furthermore, teachers can receive feedback from the children and adjust the next lesson accordingly. The benefit of recorded lessons is that children can pause and re-watch the teaching videos which results in less reliance on an adult at home and promotes independence for the child. Recorded lessons also allow you to schedule home learning around your own family and work schedule.

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

Your child will sent home from school with a resource pack which will include stationery, exercise books and any other resources to allow your child to continue learning at home. This pack will also include your child's individual Seesaw login details as well instructions of how to access work that has been set. Your child's class teacher will communicate via Seesaw and set work using the See-saw class app. On the first morning of home learning, you will receive a message from your class teacher with teaching activities, videos and resources for a minimum of three lessons to complete 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. Wherever possible, pupils will follow the same curriculum as if they were in the academy.

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?

Whilst of course there is no substitute for children learning in school, our intention is to minimise the academic impact of school or bubble closures by delivering high quality provision which replicates normal classroom practice.

During the Academy closure, one teacher from each year group will be in school delivering lessons to the children who are eligible for a school place. Meanwhile, the partner teacher within a year group will be responsible for delivering home learning. This means that the teacher your child sees on screen may not always be their class teacher. The lessons will be exactly the same for all children in the year group and will be the same lessons as the children will be receiving in school. This will enable us to confidently deliver 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, team games in PE will be replaced with general fitness activities and some subjects which are heavily dependent on specialist resources (DT and Art etc.) may have to be deferred until school reopens.

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:

- EYFS: up to 2 hours (including directed play)
- Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day
- Key Stage 2: 4 hours a day

This time will be spread across recorded lessons from the class teacher, completion of tasks set, physical activity, online worship and other independent online learning.

We also include reading as part of our daily home learning activities. Reading at home with your child is the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education. Aim to listen to your child read at least once a day.

Accessing remote education

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

Home Learning will be set using 'Seesaw activities'. To access this you will need sign in using a laptop, computer or mobile device. If using a phone or tablet you will need to download the 'Seesaw Class app'. Please note that this is different to the Seesaw Family app that we use for regular communication. If your child is using a computer or laptop for home learning, you will not need to download an additional app as learning can be accessed on a web browser by following this link: https://app.seesaw.me

You or your child will then need to sign into See-saw by clicking "I'm a Student" and enter their unique home learning code or by scanning their QR code. You will find your child's seesaw log in details stuck in their reading diary and a copy in their home learning resource packs.

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. If technology is proving to be a barrier to home learning we may be able offer some assistance with this. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- If device access is an issue the Academy will aim to provide a loan of a laptop or tablet to access the online resources.
- If internet access is an issue the Academy will provide families with a SIM card pre-loaded with 30GB of data for 90 days.
- If we are unable to provide assistance by loaning a device or by supporting with an internet connection, we may be able to offer your child a place in school (dependent on class numbers).
- In exceptional circumstances, where the above is not possible, the Academy will provide paper worksheets and books to ensure that children can continue with their education.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Your child's teacher will set daily lessons for children to engage with at home using Seesaw 'activities'. Not only does it allow learning activities to be set but the teacher can also prepare and

share recorded lessons that match with the learning that would have ordinarily happened in school. As part of these home learning lessons, the teacher will include:

- A video or series of videos of them introducing an activity, teach a new idea or concept;
- Accompanying lesson slides with voiceovers;
- An activity for children to apply what they have just been taught;
- An opportunity to respond back to the teacher.

This will enable us to confidently delivery our curriculum and make sure that your child's learning journey continues at home during the Academy closure.

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?

We expect the same high level of engagement throughout remote learning as we do in the Academy. Lessons are carefully planned and delivered by teachers to ensure that they are accessible for all children whilst also providing an appropriate amount of challenge. Our aim is, by providing recorded lessons, that children will be able to access the vast majority of learning independently. We suggest that the adult's role at home should be to support and supervise, without a need to teach or explain concepts to your child. If children are struggling with their learning, you or your child can direct message your teacher who will then be able to respond with specific advice or support.

The teachers will follow the same behaviour policy praising children and rewarding effort from seesaw lessons.

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

All activities and recorded lessons set by the teacher can be accessed and responded to directly on the Seesaw Class app. Children can choose to respond to the seesaw lesson directly on the screen or by completing work in their exercise book. If children complete work in their book, they can still share it with their teacher by taking a photo and adding it to their response on seesaw.

Teachers and Senior Leaders are able to monitor see-saw to see who has logged on and accessed lessons (even if a child hasn't completed or submitted their work). Teachers and senior leaders will monitor and track engagement through the week and make contact with families who have limited or no interaction with home learning to offer 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 back on pupil work is as follows:

- When your child completes the lesson activity and responds, it will be sent directly to your child's class teacher to approve;
- Teachers will then be able to 'like', give feedback, or offer further challenge or support based on your child's response;
- Once approved, the teacher will save the work to the child's online profile and assign it to the corresponding subject folder.
- Teachers will collate whole class feedback from the submitted student responses and consider next steps. Errors, misconceptions and difficulties will be addressed in the subsequent lessons.
- Part of the next lesson will be spent giving feedback to the class about strengths and areas for development, and giving time for development areas to be worked on and improved

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:

- All children who have an EHCP will be offered a place in school in the case of national lockdown and school closures.
- Children deemed vulnerable due to their SEN needs or ability to engage in home learning will be offered a place in school in the case of national lockdown and school closures.
- For those not in school, differentiated work and activities will be sent via seesaw. Staff will closely monitor frequency and level of engagement in home learning to ensure they do not fall further behind. They will receive either a weekly or fortnightly telephone call to offer any additional support.
- For those children who normally receive 1:1 support in school, personalised activities and resources will be sent home, if required, to supplement the class teacher's home learning activities.
- There is the option of regular 1:1 Microsoft Teams video calls across the week with the child's normal keyworker to support home learning and ensure engagement is maintained.

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?

Once a teacher has been notified that an individual child will be self-isolating, they will aim to prepare and send work within a 24hour period. This will be sent directly via seesaw and will include an overview of a week's worth of learning with supporting resources. Work will include:

- Daily English Activities that follows the sequence of learning that is happening in school.
- Daily Maths Activities that follows the sequence of learning that is happening in school.
- One Wider Curriculum lesson per day that follows the sequence of learning that is happening in school.
- Daily reading
- Resources to support handwriting and spelling patterns for the week.
- 1 Believe Time (collective worship) per week

Accessing Home Learning via Seesaw

STEP 1:

🖥 **Laptops + Computers: Go to https://app.seesaw.me**

📱 **Tablets + Mobile Devices: Download the Seesaw Class app in your device's app store.**

This is a different app to the Seesaw Family app that we have been using for messages and sharing photos.
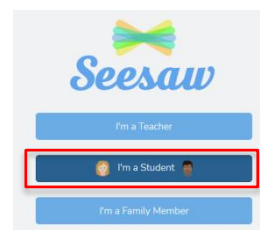
🔄

If you already have the app, make sure it is updated.

STEP 2: Helping Your Child Log In to Seesaw

Click 'I'm a Student'

Log in as directed by your child's teacher or school:

✔ Your child may log in with a Home Learning Text or QR Code *(This is included in your resource pack and stuck into school reading diaries).*

FAQ's TROUBLE LOGGING IN?

✔ Make sure your child is signing in to the **CLASS app** (Students cannot complete remote learning activities on the Family app)

✔ Make sure your child clicks **'I'm a Student'**

✔ Make sure your child enters login credentials as shown with no typos; if scanning a code, make sure to stand far enough away for the entire code to be scanned

> ✔ *If there are any further difficulties, do not hesitate to contact the school.*

STEP 3: Explore Learning Resources from Seesaw

✔ Access and respond to the daily lessons set by your child's class teacher.