Manor House School

Information for parents and carers on our provision for remote learning.

February 2021

Introduction

Manor House School has remained open throughout the COVID 19 pandemic. The school continues to remain open but we recognise that some parents/ carers feel that, during the exceptional circumstances, their child is safer at home. At times, some pupils cannot attend school because they are following public health advice to self-isolate at home.

The aim of this document is to provide additional information alongside our curriculum policy and to provide parents with a greater knowledge and understanding of how we will continue to deliver our curriculum and support their child's home learning.

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents / carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

The pupils at Manor House have a wide range of needs. When planning for a remote education for our pupils, we need to take account of these needs and plan individualised approaches and support for each pupil within the tasks being set. The information in this document sets out the whole school expectations for remote learning.

This approach is different to that taken if an individual pupil is absent during this period but the majority of their class or bubble are attending. For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

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. This is because these absences can occur at short notice and a short period of time is needed while we take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching. Our remote curriculum aims to broadly match the curriculum that pupils would receive if they were attending school. This includes a specified number of tasks that require completion of teacher set activities and also some independent study where appropriate.

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

Teachers at Manor House School are currently planning lessons in such a way that, should pupils need to work from home, they can be provided with activities that directly link to the learning taking place in the classroom.

Parents will be sent a link email to our digital learning platform ADL, via a Zoom invite for face to face sessions. Pupils are also provided login details to access SumDog (Maths, Spelling and Grammar), MyMaths, Lexia Core 5 Reading and Accelerated Reader. Work and equipment is delivered (or posted) home for pupils. We understand that some parents/carers prefer to avoid accessing all tasks through electronic devices and for this reason we are also able to send work home where requested.

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 for those pupils in school may differ from those pupils at home.

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, independent work online work and hard copy work packs) will take pupils broadly between 3 and 4 hours per day.

Accessing remote education

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

Pupils have the opportunity to borrow a school laptop for the time they are learning remotely. Invites for access to the remote learning platform ADL, will be sent via zoom to the parents email address. Remote access will also be provided to SumDog, MyMaths, Lexia and Accelerated Reader. Hard copy work pack and resources will be sent out via the post or hand delivered.

The staff team will continue to contact parents & pupils to support learning.

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 also recognise that some parents find it harder to support learning on computers because their child's needs make it difficult to equate home use of devices with schoolwork. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- Laptops to be made available to all pupils

- Hard copies / printed material can be delivered to pupils to ensure they are accessing the curriculum at all times.

- All work produced by teachers is recorded.

- The staff team will contact pupils twice per week.

- Staff on hand throughout the school day on email and phone for further support.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online lessons / group work / individualised) via ADL

- Online homework support systems –Lexia, SumDog, MyMaths and Accelerated Reader

- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, printed activities)

- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subject areas e.g. BBC Bitesize

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 aspire for all of our pupils to engage with at least 3 and up to 4 hours of remote learning daily, but we recognise that this can present a significant challenge for many of our pupils and their parents / carers who are supporting them. We understand that our pupils all require significant additional support at times to access and complete tasks set. We understand that this is a huge challenge for some families and this is why our home learning team will remain regular contact.

We ask that all parents and carers will engage with their class teachers to ensure that we can offer effective support in delivering remote learning. We are expected to keep a record of pupil engagement in remote education – where a pupil is struggling with this, we will record where parents have communicated this to us.

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

Staff will make contact with parents/ carers twice per week where they will get feedback from the work completed. Parents/ carers are asked to send in scans or photographs via email of completed work for marking and feedback. The staff team will contact you for information regarding the engagement and completion of work.

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:

- Direct communication via the digital platform

- Teacher assessment of work

- Feedback will be given on receipt of all work submitted

- Certificate of achievement for the successful completion of work

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 is likely to differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school. Our principle will remain that wherever possible, the curriculum being taught at school will broadly match the activities set for a self-isolating pupil.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

The process for a pupil who is self-isolating and those pupils who are in school with usually be largely the same. Work delivered to pupils in school will be the same for those who are self-isolating. Those pupils at home will be able to access the same work from our digital platform or will have printed packs delivered to their home. We understand that sometimes pupils who are self-isolating may subsequently become ill and then work will not be set or expected to be completed. We also understand that sometimes a test result will mean a pupil can return to school more quickly than anticipated. We will try to minimise any disruption to learning as much as possible.