

# Remote Education at The Rivers CofE Multi Academy Trust

We all know that children's education and wellbeing are at the forefront of our approach at The Rivers CE Academy Trust. Therefore, our remote education offer strikes a balance in ensuring all children, both at home and in school, can have access to a high-quality education.

Below outlines The Rivers vision, answering some key questions as well as giving you top tips to support your children during this difficult time.

## The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home?

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school, ensuring that the skills and knowledge are mapped out in our curriculum plans (available on schools' websites). This curriculum is monitored by leaders in each school. We are also carrying out audits of each school to ensure we can learn from each other and share the best approaches for all children.

## 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 including some of the activities that will be included:

Key Stage 1: 3 hours per day

Key Stage 2: 3-4 hours per day

We fully appreciate that all families are in difficult situations at the current time. Please remember that there are many activities that encourage learning as well as those provided by the school. Playing card games, cooking, exercise outdoors are all valuable learning experiences for our children.



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

In Reception we continue to use a range of platforms to support remote education and from Years 1 to 6 we use the Digital Learning Platform Seesaw. We have been trialling this platform across the Trust since March and implemented in school since September. Seesaw enables us to provide a high quality of education to both pupils in school and those at home, whilst being child-friendly to enable pupils to access their work independently.

### Feedback

All work submitted to Seesaw has to be approved by the teacher. From here a teacher can like a child's piece of work, add written feedback or even **record their voice**.

In KS2 we may utilise **quizzes** which can assess and monitor children's progress.

### Social calls

We all know how important **social interaction** for children. Therefore by utilising Microsoft Teams, a teacher can send a link to children to join in with a virtual assembly, story times, weekly quizzes and catch ups in small groups

### Flexible

Seesaw allows the flexibility for children to respond in a variety of means including:

- Taking **photos** of their written work
- **Writing** on and adding **text boxes** directly on worksheets
- Uploading **videos** or **pictures** of activities they have completed
- Able to **type** up their writing
- Complete to sort by **dragging** interactive materials
- To **record** their thoughts about how they solved a maths problem

### Lesson Delivery

Seesaw allows teachers to create **activities** for children to complete. These can include **video** instruction; **audio** explanations; links to **external websites**; and even **worksheets** for children to complete.

We will also send links through Seesaw to external websites such as **Oak Academy** and **BBC Bitesize**.

### Daily Messages

On Seesaw, staff will share different messages during the week including:

- Reading a story
- Introduce the week's topic and timetable



To find out how to make the most out of Seesaw, please watch: <https://youtu.be/Us2sOp9JQTE>

## **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:

- Where possible we will lend laptops to pupils who do not have a digital device at home. We have already identified these families within school and will be in contact as soon as possible.
  - *Please be aware due to the shortages in devices across the world there is significant delay with delivery, including those from the DfE.*
- We will work with families who do not have access to the teaching materials on Seesaw and endeavour to ensure your child's education continues at this time. This may be by providing paper-based resources, stationery etc.

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

We believe in providing a balanced approach in delivering the curriculum remotely. This will ensure all children have the possibility to succeed and thrive through this period of remote learning. Recorded videos can be watched at suitable times and replayed by children to embed their understanding. There are also numerous occasions for children to see and hear their teacher throughout the week including receiving a phone call as well as a weekly catch up call with their class.

## **Engagement and feedback**

We encourage your child, where possible, to respond to work set by the teacher on the same day. We recognise the many factors at home where this may not always be possible. We track children's engagement and will be in contact to support you if there are any barriers in accessing the materials.

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. Teachers will respond to children's work and give them feedback in a variety of means:

- All work on Seesaw needs to be approved by the class teacher or Learning Assistant. Often this will be liked too.
- In addition, your child will receive at least one piece of individual feedback a day. This will often be an audio feedback or written comment.
- Quizzes marked automatically will ensure we can assess children's progress.

## **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.

We are adapting and constantly reviewing our practice ensuring that all children can succeed during this time of remote learning.

Thank you as always for your support.