

Misson Primary Guide to Blended and Remote Learning Updated January 2021

What is remote and blended learning?

During the current COVID situation, schools may have to send groups of children home when there is a confirmed case in their class or bubble. In order to minimise the disruption to learning, all schools have been asked to ensure they can provide remote and blended learning.

Remote learning is any learning that does not take place face to face in the classroom. This is what happened for the first part of the National lock down up to the beginning of June 2020. From June, some children were back in school whilst others remained at home, some learning was face to face, and some was remote, this is known as blended learning.

Unlike the national lockdown in March 2020 the government has asked schools to ensure learning continues as closely as possible to the planned curriculum, regardless of whether the children are learning at school or from home. It is therefore very important that they complete as much of the work as possible so they do not fall behind other children in their class.

How will this work as Misson Primary School.

Each week when teachers plan their lessons, they will take into account the possibility that some or all of the children in their class may be isolating at home. This will enable them to give the work that would have been done face to face to children who are working from home.

The work sent home will usually consist of a presentation or video, and some work sheets, questions, or tasks for the children to complete. These will be sent via Dojo. This way all children will get the same learning regardless of where they are. Work may sometimes be set in other ways such as My Maths, Purple Mash or other online resources. If it is something your child is unfamiliar with, their teacher will give them clear instructions.

In January 2021, revised instructions from the government told schools to set:

Key stage 1 children: Three hours a day, on average, across the school cohort, with less for younger children

Key stage 2: Four hours a day

This is total learning time, and can include direct work with the teachers on Zoom, viewing videos or presentations, reading, physical activity, practical activities, or completing written work.

Paper resources to support children's learning will be delivered to families from time to time. They may include sheets to record work on, or learning aids such as number lines, whiteboards, or exercise books.

Teachers will keep records of the engagement of children in home learning, and will message via Dojo or Tapestry if they have any concerns. They may also contact parents by phone.

Recording work

Work can be recorded in a number of ways, depending what suits each family's circumstances. Possible methods are set out below:

- Works sheets can be printed out if you have access to a printer.
- Some tablets can take a screen shot of the work, than answers can be written electronically on top.
- If neither of the above are possible, answers can be written in an exercise book (you should have one that has been sent home) or on paper. If you are doing this, please make sure your child clearly numbers their answers so the teacher can mark them.
- You may also want to write directly into a word document, again, make sure answers are clearly labelled with the question numbers.

Returning work for marking

Work should be added to your child's Dojo portfolio. If it is already in electronic format, then it can be uploaded straight away. If it is on paper, then taking a photo of it with a phone or tablet before uploading the photo will work well.

Teachers will view all work submitted and will provide feedback via Tapestry or Dojo to support learning and celebrate good work. Teacher will also keep in regular contact with parents on their Tapestry or Dojo accounts.

Support for home learning.

The support teachers are able to give will depend on the number of children isolating.

- If the whole class is working from home, the teacher and teaching assistant will Zoom the children during the day, your child's teacher will let you know the exact timings of these video calls once the children have been sent home. The purpose of the calls will be to explain the work the children will be doing, and answer questions, they will be some teaching Zoom sessions. Reception Class will meet every day for 15 to 20 minutes, Y1/2 will meet for 30 minutes a day for each year group, and Y3/4 and Y5/6 will meet for 30 minutes in the morning, and 1 hour in the afternoon. Children who are in school will take part in these meetings too.
- If only a few children are working from home, the support they get will be different, as the teacher will be in class with the majority of pupils. In these circumstances support will be via Dojo, and will respond to questions as soon as time permits them, this is likely to be at the beginning and end of the school day.
- If you are struggling with access to digital devices, please message your child's teacher, the school may be able to help by loaning a limited number of devices.
- Children with special educational needs may require extra support, or different resources to help with home learning, teachers will provide these, but please contact your child's teacher if you think you may need further support.

If your child's teacher is ill

If your child's teacher is too ill to teach remotely and the whole of the class is working from home, a prepared set of lessons covering 10 days will be made available. These will be based on the Oak Academy lessons. The support available for your child in these circumstances will depend on the availability of other staff in school, and we will give further details if this situation occurs.

Supporting your child

The amount of support your child needs when working remotely will depend on their age, and the nature of the task set. We appreciate that many parents will be trying to work from home themselves, and this will have an impact on what support they can give. Most of the time children in KS2 should be able to work fairly independently, but will still need some support or guidance from time to time. Parents will be able to arrange when their child works so it fits with when they are available to support them, but try to complete each day's work on the day it is set.

Safe remote learning

Please ensure your child is kept safe whilst working online and refer to our Remote Learning Policy, Zoom Meetings Acceptable Use Policy and make sure you have completed the Zoom Consent Form, all of which are available on the letters section of the website. Further guidance can be found at https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers and we are always happy to answer questions about online safety.

Thank you for your valued support during these challenging times, our doors are always open (virtually) and we will try to help the best we can.