



Remote Learning Policy

This policy helps to explain when school children can learn from home and how they will achieve it.

We know children learn best when they are at school, surrounded by their friends and teachers. Attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience.

There may, however, be times when a pupil is unable to attend because school is forced to restrict attendance to some or all pupils, for example, severe weather. In exceptional cases, a child might also be unable to attend for medical reasons but well enough to learn from home.

In these circumstances, school may consider providing remote education, allowing children to keep on track with their education and stay connected to their teachers and friends.

When can school children learn from home?

It's really important that remote education is not viewed as an equal alternative to attendance in school. For this reason, school will only consider it as a last resort when the alternative would be no education.

Schools may suggest that pupils should learn from home 'remotely' if pupils are unable to attend school in person due to closures or restrictions on attendance. Restrictions to school attendance and closures will only happen in very exceptional circumstances and usually only where school leaders and the local authority (also known as the council) have decided that it would not be possible to open a school safely.

There may also be limited instances where an individual pupil cannot attend school but is still able or well enough to continue their learning. This could be because they are:

- Recovering from a short-term infectious illness.
- Preparing for or recovering from an operation.
- Recovering from an injury.

- Affected by a special educational need or disability (SEND) or a mental health issue which is impacting attendance (in exceptional cases).

When a child cannot attend school but is well enough to learn, we will always seek to overcome the barriers to attendance and provide support for the pupil to attend before offering remote education. It is important that remote education is only considered as a last resort and a short-term solution as part of a plan to reintegrate back to school.

Children whose attendance is likely to be affected in the long-term may need additional support to bring the absence to an end as soon as possible, so school will work with the child, their parents or carers and, if appropriate, a relevant medical professional.

How should children access remote education?

As school closures and individual absences often happen without warning, it is important that parents or carers and pupils, know what to expect.

Work provided during periods of remote education will be high quality, ambitious, and cover an appropriate range of subjects. School will aim for remote work to be equivalent in length to the core teaching time they would receive in school. However, this is not always possible and a child's age, home environment and learning needs should be considered.

Not every pupil is able to access online or digital remote education, and school will consider working to overcome these barriers. For example, we may distribute school-owned devices like laptops or tablets, or provide printed resources.

At Hatton Hill, remote education will include:

- A daily email from the classteacher setting expectations and listing work for completion
- Work accessed via a digital education platform – these are platforms the school use regularly and that parents and children are already familiar with:
 - Purplemash
 - Spelling Shed
 - Time Table Rock Stars
 - Accelerated Reader
 - RM Maths
 - Letterjoin
 - RWI

- Tasks set for a child to complete independently and reading assignments.
- Access to high-quality lessons developed by the [Oak National Academy](#) or other external online resource providers the school trusts and recommends.
- Printed resources or workbooks sent home.

How do children on free school meals access their meals if they're learning from home?

Where pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals are receiving remote education, we will work with our catering team either to provide good quality lunch parcels. This will make sure that eligible pupils continue to be supported for the period they are unable to attend school.

Can pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) access home education?

If pupils with SEND are not able to attend school and require remote education, their teachers are best placed to know how to help them continue to learn effectively.

Some pupils with SEND may not be able to access remote education without adult support. School will work collaboratively with families to put arrangements in place that allow pupils with SEND to access education remotely, for example, if a child has 1:1 support, their designated adult may visit the home. Decisions on how remote education can be provided will be informed by the individual needs of the pupils and their families.

It may be challenging or impossible for school to deliver remotely the kind of approach that it does in the classroom. In this instance, school must instead consider, in cooperation with the local authority (if the child has an education health and care (EHC) plan), other ways in which it and the local authority can help.

Can vulnerable children still attend school during closures?

School leaders will take all reasonable steps to keep schools open for as many pupils as possible. Where there is no option but to restrict attendance, priority will be given to key cohorts including vulnerable children, children of critical workers, and pupils due to sit formal assessments.

Vulnerable families will be contacted regularly by a member of our support team, e.g. Mrs Hickey, learning mentor.

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