



Dorney School

Offer of Remote Learning

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, schools are required to have a remote learning plan in place so that any child who cannot attend school because of COVID-19 does not miss out on their learning.

This letter explains our plans for remote learning for children who have to self-isolate, or where local or national restrictions mean that children need to stay at home.

Our remote learning plan

Our remote learning plan has been made with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school.

- Pupils are expected to be accessing remote learning between 3-4 hours a day. However, this is very much dependent on age and stage of your child. Younger pupils would require less than 3 hours. We believe that parents are the best judge on the amount of time children spend on their screens.
- Our suggested timetable which has been sent to all parents allows flexibility in, when and how pupils access remote learning. Please let us know if you would like a copy of this timetable.
- Lessons are uploaded daily and teachers offer live feedback. We are in the process of developing some live 'telecast' lessons. Some lessons are pre-recorded by our teachers and we also use teaching videos from reputable education providers.

All pupils have access to Purple Mash accounts, Timestable Rockstars or Numbots, Tapestry (EYFS). They are also given other relevant usernames such as Google Classrooms and Espresso depending on their key stage.

- Teachers monitor how all pupils access their learning daily and make regular phone calls to all families and especially ones who may have difficulty accessing online.
- All pupils accessing the online platform receive daily relevant feedback from teachers of their lessons, learning and tasks.

We are continually assessing and improving our remote learning offer and our offer meets DfE expectations.

Department for Education Expectations:

- Set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects.

The school is setting work that aligns with the National curriculum and the school curriculum. We are gradually increasing the amount of lessons to ensure that pupils are not overwhelmed.

- Primary schools should ensure pupils have three hours work a day, on average, across the cohort.

The attached timetables reflect a minimum of 3 hours' work.

- Secondary schools should ensure students have four hours' work a day, with more for those working towards formal qualifications this year.

Not applicable.

- Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos.

Teachers work hard to send clear explanations for all lessons. They signpost pupils to relevant videos that support learning.

- Have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern.

Our teachers provide daily feedback to any pupils who are online.

- Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks.

Teachers monitor the progress of every child including the ones that do not have the facility to learn online.

- Provide feedback, at least weekly, using “digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate”.

Teachers provide daily feedback.

- Enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils’ understanding.

Teachers support and challenge all pupils where necessary.

What you’ll need at home:

- A laptop or an equivalent device where your child can access their accounts on the various platforms such as the ones listed above.
- It is optional (but recommended) that your child has an exercise book to record parts of their learning and their ideas. A set of writing and colouring equipment is also recommended.
- A camera to upload photos of their work if they are unable to edit any documents sent by their teachers.
- A quiet space at home (if possible) to help them focus on their learning.

If your child does not have any of the above, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can help support you.

What we expect from your child

It’s important that your child engages with home learning. It may help to use the suggested timetable and to encourage and support your child wherever possible.

If they are not engaging with the learning, we will use the following strategies to provide additional support:

- Phone call home. We will discuss how we can help your child and you.
- Increased feedback through Purple Mash.
- Live fortnightly sessions where the class has the opportunity to discuss difficulties with class teacher.

What you can do to help

We appreciate that if this situation arises, it may present some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

Younger children in particular may need support in accessing online materials and staying focused with their remote learning. We ask that you help them as much as you can.

At the same time, we don't expect you to watch your child all day, and we wouldn't expect parents/carers to get involved in remote lessons in place of our teachers. But, it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what they've learned.

Our top tips:

- Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed for the start of the school day, and use the timetable if this helps.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life.
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active.

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you're having any difficulties with remote learning, or if you have any questions. You can contact the school at office@dorneyschool.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S Lee