



**Montgomery  
Primary Academy**  
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## **Virtual Learning: information for parents**

This brief guide is to make parents and pupils aware of what they can expect from our academy during periods of school closure or pupil isolation as a result of coronavirus (COVID 19). Our approach to virtual learning in lockdowns and isolation of pupils or groups of pupils is the same: we provide teaching remotely and when pupils are well, we expect them to participate.

### **Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?**

For the most part yes, however there are some subjects and elements of subjects that are very challenging to learn virtually. Where this is the case, teachers are adapting the curriculum as necessary. Teachers are taking care to develop a curriculum that is as close to our normal curriculum as possible, while taking into consideration the challenges of learning remotely.

### **How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?**

Each child will be provided with work which should take a minimum of:

- Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2): 3 hours daily, with less for younger children
- Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6): 4 hours daily

School timetables are to be found on the Montgomery Primary website. Online school starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3.15pm for all year groups.

### **If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?**

We are committed to making sure that your child can learn, so please contact the school as soon as possible and we will arrange devices and internet access if possible. Please email the office manager, [enquiry@montgomeryprimaryacademy.org](mailto:enquiry@montgomeryprimaryacademy.org)

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

Within Early Years children receive live daily phonics, reading and story sessions. These lessons are planned the same way as the school day to ensure consistency and familiarity. They are live virtual lessons led by their classroom teacher.

In Years 1- 6, children are taught Maths, Reading and English through daily live virtual lessons, using the same structure and routine that they received in physical school, which they are accustomed to. Once again, this provides our pupils with the continuity and familiarity they need to continue learning remotely. Further work linked to the wider curriculum is also supplied daily with either a live or pre recorded lesson, that can be accessed on Google Classroom. The tasks set can be monitored by the class teacher,



enabling feedback to be given instantly and regularly, both to praise the effort seen and address any misconceptions witnessed.

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

The children in Early Years will access their learning through the google classrooms which is updated at intervals throughout the day and feedback given to children's work. Children in Early Years, Year 1, Year 2 and selected KS2 children have access to BugClub which provides fully decodable E-books closely matched to their reading development.

Each Year Group has developed bespoke daily [timetables](#) which incorporate live lessons, pre-recorded lessons and distance learning tasks. The academy recognises that the children, on occasions may need a screen break and has also provided work books, set at the appropriate level for reading, writing, maths, handwriting and phonics.

**What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?**

This will vary depending on the age of your child. All pupils are expected to attend any live virtual lessons (Years 1-6) and submit work so that our teachers can make sure that they are making good progress and are able to provide effective feedback. There are also small group interventions taking place during the lessons, teachers who have identified children as needing additional support are invited into 'break out' rooms to target areas of need.

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

If your child is well, we have the same high expectations of virtual attendance as we have of physical attendance in school. We monitor virtual attendance in the same way that we monitor attendance normally. If your child does not attend virtual learning, or we have any concerns about their engagement we will contact you in the usual manner. We also have the same high expectations of pupils' behaviour online as we would in school.

**How will you assess my child's work and progress?**

Your child will be assessed on engagement with the online lessons and the quality of the work they complete. This is very similar to how things work in school. It is of paramount importance that pupils complete the work that is set, because teachers will be looking closely to see any misconceptions that are emerging or gaps in pupils' knowledge. Staff have developed the use of google forms as a summative measure, as well as using online platforms that provide instant feedback.

**How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support from adults at home to access remote education?**



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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 in the following ways:

- Telephone calls to support with home learning and engagement (these may be from support staff or other members of the remote learning team)
- Varied technologies to support home learning
- Additional software/platforms to support SEND pupils
- KiT (Keeping in Touch) calls from our SENDCo
- Provision of ICT equipment
- Remote interventions (online break-out sessions)
- For our more vulnerable pupils, we can also accommodate places at school during any lockdown.

**Where can I find further resources to support me in understanding what my child is learning?**

Additional materials to support your child's learning at home can be found on the following websites and platforms:

- [AET Curriculum In A Box](#)
- [BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Oak National Academy](#)
- [DoodleMaths](#)
- [DoodleEnglish](#)
- [Times Table Rock Stars](#)
- [BugClub](#)

**How do I report a concern about online learning?**

In the first instance, we ask that you contact your child's class teacher either via google classroom or by requesting a call back to discuss your concerns. If you feel that the complaint is of a formal nature, we ask that you contact the Headteacher to discuss your concerns. Once a complaint has been received, we aim to resolve the matter promptly and ensure that a suitable outcome is reached. If for any reason you feel that your complaint or concern has been unfairly handled or an issue has not been resolved satisfactorily, then we would invite you to write to the Chair of Governors at [enquiry@montgomeryprimaryacademy.org](mailto:enquiry@montgomeryprimaryacademy.org). If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact our safeguarding team on 0121 464 9115.



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**How do I keep my child safe while learning online?**

We ask that parents ensure that their child is using their device safely by following the guidance of the [National Online Safety Centre](#). All academy devices are equipped with an E-Safe monitoring tool and make use of filtering to reduce the risk when using devices at home.

**How to view assessments and marking?**

The children in Early Years are provided with individual next steps focused on basic skills. Work is marked by the teacher with any relevant comments and shared with individuals. Similarly in Years 1-6, the work is marked and assessed by teachers. Comments are made and next steps are provided. When next steps have been actioned there is a resolution process that the children undertake to ensure they are responding to the feedback given. Good work is also shared via the head of school dropping into lessons and children completing a virtual passport.

**Who do I talk to if I need help?**

You can contact your child's class teacher via Google classroom if you need help with tasks or activities.

Mrs Woodward and the SLT are available to help with Pastoral, Well Being and Support outside of school and can be contacted by calling the main office on 0121 464 9115.