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Newington Academy Virtual Learning

January 2021

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

All class timetables can be found at

<https://sites.google.com/aetinet.org/newington-academy/virtual-school>

All virtual classrooms begin at 9.00am Monday to Friday. Teachers and support assistants are online throughout the day until 3pm to support with learning.

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 contact Miss Lawrie on 01482 305630 and she will be able help.



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How will my child be taught remotely?

All classes use Google classroom as their learning platform. Every child has their own Newington Academy email account which gives them access to our chrome books and Google classroom.

EYFS (FS1 and FS2)

- Children are invited to live check-ins 3 times throughout every day.
- Work packs are sent out fortnightly which link to a series of pre recorded lessons that are posted daily.
- FS1 and FS2 children have separate Google classrooms with bespoke pre-recorded lessons and activities uploaded daily.
- Children's work is uploaded to the Google classroom for each lesson and hard copy work packs are provided fortnightly which link to the pre-recorded lessons.
- Parents are invited to upload photos of their child's work to the classroom to be celebrated at the end of every day.
- A member of staff is online throughout the day and will monitor any questions through the classroom stream.
- An independence indicator is included on all work to indicate the level of support your child should need to complete the task. **Green** will be able to complete independently, **Amber** will need some support and **Red** will need considerable support.

Year 1.

- Children are invited to live check-ins at 3 points throughout the day. A welcome hangout every morning at 9.00am. A second meet at 11.30 to reflect on learning and discuss the afternoon's activities and a final reflection of the day is online at 2.30pm.
- Lessons for the day are pre recorded so that parents can support their children to access them at a convenient time.
- Children's work is uploaded to the Google classroom for each lesson and hard copy work packs are provided fortnightly which link to the pre recorded lessons.
- Parents are invited to upload photos of their child's work to the classroom to be celebrated at the end of every day.
- An independence indicator is included on all work to indicate the level of support your child should need to complete the task. **Green** will be able to complete independently, **Amber** will need some support and **Red** will need considerable support.
- A member of staff is online throughout the day and will monitor any questions through the classroom stream.



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Years 2,3,4,5,6,

- Live teaching takes place from 9.00am every morning.
- Children are set work linked to the live lessons on the Google Classrooms.
- Teachers and support staff monitor learning throughout the day and provide feedback to all learners as they are completing their work
- Support staff use 'breakout rooms' from the main Meet link to work with groups of pupils as appropriate
- Pupils can ask for support with their work throughout the day by communicating through the meet link.
- Teachers and support staff are online and actively working with the children throughout the day.

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

All of our online education is accessible via our school website or from your child's Newington Academy email account.

Every pupil has their own email log in to a Google account and links to the Google classroom are on the home page. Pupils have been taught how to access this when they were in school.

The virtual school can be found here

<https://sites.google.com/a/tinet.org/newington-academy/virtual-school>

Links to other online learning apps can be found here.

[Doodle English](#)

[Doodle Maths](#)

[Doodle Tables](#)

[Doodle Spell](#)

[Active Learn - Reading scheme](#)

[TT Rockstars](#)

[Lexia](#)

[Phonics Play](#)

We will provide all children from FS2 to Year 6 a chrome book device to work on if they need one. Wherever possible this will be one device per child even if there are multiple children within the family.

We will also provide internet dongles with free wifi for any child that needs one.

Please contact Miss Lawrie on 01482 305630 if you need any support with a chrome book device or access to the internet.



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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 students are expected to attend any live virtual lessons and submit work so that our teachers can make sure that they are making good progress.

Children in Year 2,3,4,5 and 6 are expected to join the Google classroom meets daily from 9am. The class meet links can be found in the classroom stream and at the top of each Google Classroom. There is no expectation for children to have cameras on or microphones on throughout the meet if they feel uncomfortable for any reason. Staff can mute microphones on all learners when they are delivering the lesson. Staff are not able to access any learners' camera.

The work set for the children in these year groups should be able to be completed without any further adult support. If your child needs help or support the teachers and teaching assistants are there to help and will work with your child on a 1 to 1 basis to help them to understand the learning task

For EYFS and Year 1 children, classwork that is posted in the classroom will have an independence indicator. Green if the child can access this completely independently. Amber if they will need some adult support and Red if they will need considerable adult support.

All EYFS and Year 1 lessons are pre-recorded so that you can work through them with your child at a time to suit you. Paper copies of work will be sent fortnightly and these are clearly annotated so you know which lesson to watch before completing the task. Work packs and lessons are prepared fortnightly in advance of the lesson.

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, by telephone initially. We also have the same high expectations of pupils' behaviour online as we would in school.



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Children are expected to have their microphones muted during lessons and raise their hands on the hangout if they need to ask a question. Children may be asked direct questions within the hangout but staff will be very mindful not to put children on the spot and expect them to answer if they are feeling anxious online.

Children's comments in the class stream are being closely monitored. Any inappropriate comments will be removed by staff and addressed with the children. It may be necessary to 'mute' children on the class stream if this behaviour is persistent. Parents will be contacted if this is the case.

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.

Teachers will use quizzes and other assessments at the end of units of work to capture children's progress and attainment. These will be carefully analysed so that any gaps in learning can be addressed through further intervention on the Google classroom or once the children are back in school.

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

The support staff are online every day to support pupils with their learning needs. Class teachers may place your child in a 'breakout room' within the Google classroom so that your child can have individual or small group support.

If your child is finding things difficult please let us know and we will be able to help.

The class teachers can also assign specific work just for your child to complete which is designed to meet their needs. Other children cannot see your child's work unless they choose to upload it to the main class stream. They are only required to submit it to the teacher on the Google classroom. Teachers will give feedback on all work completed in the form of written notes, stickers and voice recordings.

We also have staff that are checking in with children to support them with their health and well being. Miss Laurie sets up hangouts once or twice a week and supports children to feel more positive about the current situation and any difficulties they may be experiencing.



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How do I get technical support if my laptop or wifi doesn't work?

Please contact Miss Lawrie, in the school office, and she will be able to help you.
Email contactus@newingtonacademy.org or telephone 01482 305630 and ask to speak to Miss Megan Green-Lawrie.

How do I report a concern about online learning?

If you have any concerns about online learning at all please call the main school office and ask to speak with Mrs Pinnell, Miss Lewis or Mrs Leighton

How do I keep my child safe while learning online?

More information about keeping your child safe online can be found at
<https://sites.google.com/a/tinet.org/newington-academy/statutory-information/esafety>