

Remote Learning

At St Thomas' we are committed to providing continuity of education to our children in the event of a Covid-related absence, a class closure or whole School closure. We are grateful to our families who have helped our children to make this transition already this term.

Remote Learning due to Class Isolation

In the event of whole class isolation in term time, we will provide structured, remote learning opportunities for all children to ensure the continued delivery of the Curriculum and a consistent approach to pupils learning during term time.

We aim to be flexible in our approach and understand the wide range of circumstances that families continue to encounter. We will not set deadlines but strongly recommend to our families that daily opportunities are built into each day to allow pupils to access the tasks set. The learning opportunities provided during any period of closure will be part of our current planning and cannot be considered by parents as optional.

Remote Learning due to Household Isolation

If your child is self-isolating due to close contact with a case of COVID19 outside school or is isolating due to Household isolation, we will use the SeeSaw Learning Platform to upload work for your child to complete at home. Due to class teacher responsibilities in school, please note that teachers will be unable to be as responsive to Seesaw when teaching in school but we will mark all work submitted and provide feedback to support your child.

Our Offer

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has found that the effectiveness of remote teaching is determined by many of the same factors as determine the effectiveness of live classroom teaching:

- ensuring pupils receive clear explanations
- supporting growth in confidence with new material through scaffolded practice
- application of new knowledge or skills
- enabling pupils to receive feedback on how to progress

Delivery of remote learning from St Thomas' CE Primary school will be through the platforms Seesaw and MS Teams. Almost all of our school family are familiar with Seesaw as it was being used throughout the spring and summer terms 2020. The addition of MS Teams will provide the opportunity for some live learning to take place.

Maths

White Rose Maths Hub will be the preferred scheme of work across the school from Year 1 to Year 6. Their remote learning is closely related to the learning that takes place in school and resources are straightforward and easy to use. Teachers will provide links to videos and any worksheets required. Work will be supported and challenges given where necessary. Resources will be shared via Seesaw or MS Teams.

Phonics (where applicable)

A daily phonics activity will be set via Seesaw and will be matched to the phase your child is currently working at.

Spellings

Children should continue to learn their weekly spellings, which will be made available through Seesaw and Spelling Shed.

Reading

Reading will be covered in two ways. We would like the children to read their own books daily. In addition, the teacher will read to the children from their class book at times throughout the week and reading lessons will follow this text or a range of linked texts. Resources will be shared via Seesaw or MS Teams.

Writing KS1

Writing lessons will take place in addition to daily reading activities. Writing will be closely linked to the focus text for that unit of work and will involve a daily writing task.

Writing KS2

Writing lessons will follow a set format. A writing genre will be introduced and studied, sentence and grammar work will be set and children will complete an extended piece of writing by the end of the week or unit.

Wider Curriculum

Lessons covering various areas of the curriculum will be provided and will be closely linked to current themes and topics being taught in class, where possible.

Teachers will provide links to a variety of websites in order to facilitate the delivery of these lessons.

Physical education

Guidance from the government states, *'taking account of any restrictions in force and pupils' age and living circumstances, pupils should be encouraged to take regular physical exercise to maintain fitness'*.

With this in mind, we encourage children to remain active during any school closure. Joe Wicks will be offering his popular hiit sessions 3 times a week for the duration of this lockdown period.

EYFS

As playing and talking with the children is the most important learning that can take place, EYFS will provide activities that lend themselves to these interactions. A key text will guide the learning through play and all the areas of learning and development will be incorporated into the activities that are planned. Daily Phonics and Maths activities will be shared and children will be encouraged to work on their fine and gross motor skills throughout each week. Our aim will be to keep the children engaged and having fun whilst learning alongside.

In all year groups, class teachers will endeavour to make daily, face-to-face contact (via MS Teams or similar) in order to provide support or feedback and to encourage maximum engagement in home learning.

Technology and Remote Learning

'Access to appropriate devices and connectivity is essential for technology-led approaches to remote education'. Gov.uk

If you are having any difficulties concerning remote learning, or do not have the capacity to access the materials and the activities set, please contact school where we will be happy to help.

Feedback and Support

There are designated times set aside for teachers to respond to queries from parents so that everyone is being given access to the same offer. Teachers can be contacted via the email used to set up parents evening last term, e.g. y1pe@st-thomas.co.uk. EYFS will continue to communicate through the parents section of Seesaw.

Queries will not be answered outside of these designated times.

We appreciate that there are challenges to be faced in home-learning, particularly when there is more than one child in the household. As a school, we would like to reassure all our families that whatever you can do with your children will be appreciated. We will ensure that all work can be accessed outside of the set times to allow you to have some flexibility over your day!

St Thomas' CE Primary

Graduated response for children who are not in school due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Phase 1

If your child is off school for a few days (2-3) as a direct result of Covid-19 and is well enough to complete work you can:

- Access your child's curriculum planning via the school website to see the year group's current topics and complete some research activities or creative activities relating to the topic.
- Read a home reading book or a book of their choice
- Complete spelling activities which can be accessed on Spelling Shed
- Complete activities from Reading Eggs or Mathletics
- Take advantage of the abundance of activities which can be accessed via this website (Oak Academy):
<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>

Phase 2

If your child needs to stay at home for a longer duration (4-14) as per government guidelines and is well enough to complete work you can:

- Access all of the activities above
- Complete specific activities relating to your child's current classroom learning activities utilizing Seesaw / Class Teams.

Phase 3

If a whole 'bubble' needs to stay at home for a longer duration as per government guidelines and your child is well enough to complete work you can:

- Access all of the activities.
- Utilise the weekly timetable that will be provided by class teachers and outline specific tasks/lessons to complete (see attached).
- Attend daily Teams meetings led by the class teacher.

Phase 4

If the whole school needs to stay at home for a longer duration as per government guidelines and your child is well enough to complete work you can: See Phase 3

Sample Timetable KS1 and KS2 (Subject to variation as appropriate to age group of the children)

	8:30-9:00	9:00-9:45	10:00-10:45	11:00-12:00	12:00-1:00	1:00-2:00	2:00-3:00	3:00-3:30
Monday	Teacher available to reply to any messages	Maths	Reading / Phonics	Writing	Lunch	Science Topic Creative RE	Small Group Chat (15 mins per groups)	Teacher available to reply to any messages.
Tuesday		Maths	Reading / Phonics	Writing	Lunch		Small Group Chat (15 mins per groups)	
Wednesday		Maths	Reading / Phonics	Writing	Lunch		Small Group Chat (15 mins per groups)	
Thursday		Maths	Reading / Phonics	Writing	Lunch		Small Group Chat (15 mins per groups)	
Friday		Maths	Reading / Phonics	Spellings and Grammar	Lunch		All Teachers PPA – Physical Activity	

Sample Timetable EYFS (Subject to variation as appropriate to age group of the children)

	8.30-9.00	9.00-9.30	9.30-10.30	10.30-10.45	10.45-11.30	11.30-12.30	12.30-1.00	1.00-2.00	2.00-3.00	3.00-3.30
Monday	Teacher available to reply to any messages.	Maths/ Literacy and Follow up activity	Free choice – Please allow children to choose an activity and enjoy some play time.	Snack	Focused activity grid	Lunch	Phonics Live with Reception class teacher	Free choice – Please allow children to choose an activity and enjoy some play time.	Small Group Chat (15 minutes per group)	Teacher available to reply to any messages.
Tuesday	Teacher available to reply to any messages.	Maths/ Literacy and Follow up activity					Phonics Live with Reception class teacher		Small Group Chat (15 minutes per group)	Teacher available to reply to any messages.
Wednesday	Teacher available to reply to any messages.	Maths/ Literacy and Follow up activity					Phonics Live with Reception class teacher		Small Group Chat (15 minutes per group)	Teacher available to reply to any messages.
Thursday	Teacher available to reply to any messages.	Maths/ Literacy and Follow up activity					Phonics Live with Reception class teacher		Small Group Chat (15 minutes per group)	Teacher available to reply to any messages.
Friday	Teacher available to reply to any messages.	Maths/ Literacy and Follow up activity					All Teachers PPA – Physical development activities			