

Remote Education



At Linden Lodge School we recognise that during this time not every pupil is able to attend on-site as they may need to self-isolate or shield.

However we are committed to providing every pupil during this time with a rich Curriculum that is personalised to meet each child's needs and also reflects our inter-disciplinary approach.

We have created a useful guide for parents to explain how we have planned and are delivering our remote education.

If parents have any questions please email
homelearning@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk

How is the remote education planned to make sure that it reflects my child's needs and our home environment?

At Linden Lodge School we use a Blended Learning Agreement which enables us to plan with you a highly personalised learning programme.

A member of the team contacts each family and uses the Blended Learning Agreement to discuss with you your child's individual learning style, the equipment and resources you have at home and whether there are any other factors we need to address.

As the majority of our pupils are visually-impaired or multi-sensory impaired it is also important to us that we discuss accessibility to ensure that any lessons provided are fully accessible and modified to take into account your child's access to visual resources.

Will my child be taught the same curriculum as they are in school?

At Linden Lodge School we offer a range of specialist curriculum pathways:

The Early Years Curriculum expanded for visually and multi-sensory impaired learners

The Pre-Formal Curriculum

The Semi-Formal Curriculum

The Formal Curriculum (the National Curriculum expanded to meet the needs of visually and multi-sensory impaired learners)

The Victoria School Curriculum for MSI pupils

When we plan your child's remote education we use the Curriculum and the individual subjects / learning domains to make sure that the timetable includes all subjects.

Our aim is to provide every opportunity for your child to continue to make progress through the Curriculum even if they are at home.

We will also provide additional guidance to you so that you have the support and tools required to join with us in delivering the work and tracking progress.

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

We are following the guidance set out by the Department for Education which sets out the number of hours each pupil should receive depending on their age.

These are as follows:

3 hours a day for Key Stage 1 (pupils in Years 1 and 2 when pupils are aged between 5 and 7)

4 hours a day for pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6 when pupils are aged between 7 and 11)

5 hours a day for pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4

These hours include time for the lessons themselves and also completion of activities or tasks

Information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's first day or two of being educated remotely might look different from our standard approach, while we take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home? As repetition is an important part of learning we are setting up our provision to mirror that of the first lockdown. Parents and guardians will be sent the remote learning agreement which needs to be signed and then fill in a questionnaire to demonstrate and explain how to personalise this provision for their learner in the home so it can be effective.

Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

- We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school and adapt the learning content to be suitable for home learning, including the delivery model and themes.

Accessing remote education

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

Our aim is to ensure that the education we provide enables your child to access, engage and make progress.

We therefore emphasise tools which have audio functions so that your child can hear familiar voices and engage more easily. We also whatever the online platform use as many features as possible to ensure learning is accessible for visually-impaired learners.

If you feel that your child is having difficulty accessing the medium we have chosen please contact us and we will explore other formats.

We also link the on-site lesson with remote learning to provide a live interactive experience during the week.

To deliver our remote learning we are using a range of tools depending on the Curriculum pathway:

Microsoft Teams – to teach live sessions

Microsoft Sway – to send pre-recorded sessions

Audio recordings – these will be sent using Sway or in a powerpoint

Google Classroom – platform used to deliver the formal curriculum

Worksheets transcribed into Braille or using enlarged print

Physical resource boxes from our Learning Resources Centre

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

- As a school we are committed to ensuring that every pupil has the technology required to access remote education. We send out a Survey to all parents to find out what technology you have at home and whether your child has the access to technology required
- Our IT department support parents in both accessing technology and finding out what particular equipment may be required.
- We use the DfE loan scheme to ensure that if pupils do not have access to a laptop or wifi connection we provide technology to the home
- If a pupil requires braille equipment we will loan this so that pupils can continue to access learning
- In addition to IT equipment our Learning Resource department is continuing to transcribe materials into braille and we can send these to homes
- We also use our weekly newsletter to inform families of any resources or schemes that are available
- The Linden Lodge Charitable Trust works with the school to identify pupils who may require access to an iPad or laptop during this time

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

Your child's Classteacher is responsible for overseeing the remote education your child receives during this time. All work provided is copied into homelearning@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk which enables Heads of department and school leaders to monitor the curriculum and the engagement of your child in their learning.

Each classteacher provides the timetable for the week and then lessons or activities for each session. In addition the classteacher collaborates with other specialist teams such as therapists, specialist teachers eg PE and DT, the Creative therapeutic arts department and habilitationists so that your child continues to receive an integrated personalised programme.

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- Live teaching (online lessons)
- Recorded teaching which breaks down the session into interactive chunks
- Parental Tutorials
- Work packs including resources
- Group project work
- Long-term project work
- Pre-recorded audio stories
- Pre-recorded specialist teaching sessions eg Food technology
- Tele therapy from our CTA department including Special Yoga, Music therapy and Drama Movement Therapy
- Live therapy sessions

Engagement and feedback

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

In this section, please set out briefly:

- We understand that supporting us in enabling your child to access remote education is key
- Many of our learners are dependent on adult support to access learning and therefore our aim is to make the sessions as clear and informative as possible
- By bridging remote education with the curriculum, voices and approaches that your child is already familiar with we aim to enable your child to engage as fully as possible
- The class teacher in addition to work sent home will contact you individually each day and this is an opportunity for you to feedback and to ask for any additional support
- If your child is having difficulty engaging we will look for different approaches and give you specific advice
- Our school Educational Psychologists will provide a half termly session for parents to answer any questions on accessing remote education and will provide follow up if required on an individual basis
- We want to continue to track your child's progress both on the curriculum and personalised learning goals and will discuss these with you
- At the end of the term we will be holding parent consultations for each parent and this is an opportunity to discuss progress and agree the next steps in learning

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

Linden Lodge uses a daily learning tracker which records the sessions provided each day for every pupil and the engagement of the pupil based either on involvement in live sessions or your feedback.

This is monitored by the leadership team and if we identify pupils who are having difficulty engaging with remote education we will contact you to identify additional support that we can provide.

If you or the school have concerns we will discuss these in partnership and take steps to find a solution. This may involve adapting our approach or involving other specialists.

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

Linden Lodge School is committed to working in partnership with parents and therefore during this time we will be seeking regular opportunities to discuss with you the progress that your child is making.

In our daily contact with parents we will invite you to share examples of your child's participation and we will maintain records of progress as we do for pupils who are accessing education on site.

Depending on the curriculum pathway we have an online platform called Earwig. We have enabled parents to access Earwig so that both teachers and parents can record progress against individual learning goals.

For pupils in the Minerva Centre regular assignments will be set and we will continue to ensure that your child continues to complete coursework as part of their GCSE or BTEC examinations.

We will continue with Annual reviews of pupils' Education, Health and Care Plans and in these we will report on your child's long term and short term targets.

How will you keep my child safe online?

We are aware that whilst online learning has many benefits it does increase the risk for children and young people. Therefore we have developed a number of Safeguarding systems to keep pupils safe online.

All parents are provided with e-safety guidance and a member of our Safeguarding team will be happy to discuss these with individual families as the use of technology will vary from one pupil to another.

We have also developed a Virtual Online Agreement. This sets out the steps we will take to ensure that your child is safe during live interactive sessions. We always ensure that two members of staff are present in live sessions.

If a pupil, member of staff or parent has any concerns regarding safeguarding or online safety we ask them to contact us immediately at safeguarding@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk

What do I do if I am worried about my child's mental health?

We suggest in the first instance you speak to your child's class teacher or Head of Department. Early help is often more effective so please speak to us as soon as possible.

We have a Creative therapeutic arts team who provide therapy through the Arts and we can refer your child to the team to access remote sessions.

In addition we work closely with CAMHS and can organise a Team around the Child meeting to discuss what resources are available and how we can work together to provide additional support.

It is not unusual for children and young people to experience a feeling of self-isolation particularly if they have vision or multi-sensory impairment. We therefore can organise sessions where your child can learn alongside their peers or speak to them. We can also put you in touch with Voluntary organisations who might provide support.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

We will use the same approach for all pupils who are accessing education remotely. Unfortunately at times a bubble may need to self-isolate following a contact with a person who has tested positive.

If this is the case we will aim to provide remote education with the minimum of delay so that your child receives continued support during this time.

Useful Contacts

head@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk

homelearning@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk

homelearning@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk

safeguarding@lindenlodge.wandsworth.sch.uk