



Larwood Academy Trust

Executive Headteacher: Mr Sean Trimble | B.Ed (Hons) MA NPQH |

Chair of Trustees: Cllr Sandra Barr | B.Sc (Hons) Dip.soc.pol |

WEBB RISE, STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG1 5QU

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Larwood School

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Pierre Van Der Merwe | BA, NPQH |

Brandles School

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REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION: 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.

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?

In the first few days where this situation takes place, we will:

1. Make contact with our families to clarify the situation with them. Many will want pupils to remain at home for sensible and appropriate reasoning in relation to health and safety
2. We have established pupil work packs that are Covid free (created in advance of this situation, then left for at least 4 days in a sealed envelope before being sent out) and will have approx. 10-14 days' worth of work ready to complete. These may also be used when a self-isolation scenario takes place.
3. In the meantime and by Day 2 of such a situation staff will start to provide 'live' lessons using Microsoft Teams
4. By Day 3, additional 1-1 support where appropriate would also be provided.

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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, however, due to the nature of our pupils, their needs and plans, alongside the need to use a screen, many pupils will have less time learning when compared to a normal school day.
- Where possible we will provide the same level of support for pupils such as 1-1 sessions, support for reading and phonics and behaviour.
- Physical Education will be delivered twice per week and the content will vary according to time of year, and the state of the pandemic. For example in the warmer months, pupils will be encouraged outside and into parks etc. In the winter dance and personal fitness will take over.
- Our reward systems will still support this system. Medals, points, and shirts will still be achievable.

REMOTE TEACHING AND STUDY TIME EACH DAY

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

We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 1	No pupils
Key Stage 2	3 hours minimum with many pupils doing 4 hours where possible. Some pupils due to needs will do less in collaboration and agreement with parents/carers

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ACCESSING REMOTE EDUCATION

HOW WILL MY CHILD ACCESS ANY ONLINE REMOTE EDUCATION YOU ARE PROVIDING?

- We use Microsoft Teams for online learning
- Other resources that aid learning such as The Oak Aacdme, BBC etc. may also be used
- We have created over 300 lessons by our own staff that can be accessed via the Larwood School YouTube page.

IF MY CHILD DOES NOT HAVE DIGITAL OR ONLINE ACCESS AT HOME, HOW WILL YOU SUPPORT THEM TO ACCESS REMOTE EDUCATION?

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- Any pupil that does not have access to a laptop at home will be given their school Chrome Book to facilitate such working, as soon as possible when this situation occurs
- If we know that any family does not have suitable broadband or data, we will support them to rectify this by using the DFE scheme or by supplying dongles that allow such access
- Pupils will not need to print materials for work as if they are needed they will be printed at school and then sent. The vast majority of work will be sent/assessed etc. electronically.

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HOW WILL MY CHILD BE TAUGHT REMOTELY?

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

- live teaching (online lessons-where staff and pupils can see each other and interact with teaching teams)
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, Larwood Youtube videos)
- printed work packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets etc)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- Some long-term project work and/or internet research activities (as per the schools full opening guidance, there will not be great reliance on this approach)
- With parent agreement there will also be alternative programs that families can use based on needs and challenges that are specific to them

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?

- Unless you have communicated differently with us, we expect pupils to engage with whatever approach to learning has been agreed for your child. This is essential to try and avoid any disadvantage for our pupils.
- We expect you to appropriately supervise your child whilst they learn online. This includes ensuring they sign up, take part, engage as best they can and complete other tasks outside of the online elements of the lesson.
- We will act on feedback from pupils and parents/carers/other professionals whereby a change of approach or additional support is deemed to be helpful

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HOW WILL YOU CHECK WHETHER MY CHILD IS ENGAGING WITH THEIR WORK AND HOW WILL I BE INFORMED IF THERE ARE CONCERNS?

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Daily check relating to attending the sessions will be made just as if they were in school. We use a first day contact approach with absence. Therefore if they do not attend the lesson, please expect us to call you. If they are unwell, just let us know as you normally would do.
- Our current priority is to ensure that our pupils are safe and engaging with some form of learning. This could take a wide variety of methods as outlined within this document and we note, that what may be great for one family will not be for another. Flexibility in approach is a key part of our delivery.
- We will use the usual mechanisms to contact you if there are concerns. This may be telephone, email, socially distanced visit and other professionals such as social workers.

HOW WILL YOU ASSESS MY CHILD'S WORK AND PROGRESS?

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms are also valid and effective methods, amongst many others. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Feedback will take place verbally and using chat forums as lessons progress
- Marking will be applied as per our school policy
- Tests may also be used in a variety of ways from online quizzes to written independent tests supported only by parents.

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ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR OUR PUPILS.

HOW WILL YOU WORK WITH ME TO HELP MY CHILD WHO NEEDS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM ADULTS AT HOME TO ACCESS REMOTE EDUCATION?

As all our pupils have additional needs, we will use a wide variety of support to help learning and progress during this challenging time:

In this section, please set out briefly:

- If you haven't got access to a device, we will supply you with one
- If you haven't got data/broadband, we will find a way of ensuring that you have
- We continue to be able to support pupils with additional learning including literacy/phonics, social skills and behaviour related issues, as examples.
- If you need training to use a device or system, we will provide this
- Where alternative systems of learning are being used, 1-1 support and guidance is also available

REMOTE EDUCATION FOR SELF-ISOLATING PUPILS

As noted previously in this document, we have a range of approaches for pupils who may need to self-isolate depending on situation and needs (assuming pupil is well, enough to engage):

1. Pupils may access and use the isolation period work packs
2. Pupils may join lessons taking place at school using Teams from home.
3. Pupils may pursue an alternative and agreed method of education whilst in this situation.
4. A combination of 1/2/3 may be utilised.

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