Remote Education at Arbour Vale School

Rachel Smet, January 2025

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 if local restrictions require a pupil or a bubble they are in, 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 the standard approach, while all necessary actions are being made 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?

Arbour Vale School uses Seesaw as their virtual learning environment (VLE). Every pupil has a unique learning code to access differentiated, personalised work that has been set by their class or subject teacher. Work will be available immediately to any pupil sent home on this platform. Seesaw allows pupils to use photos, videos, drawings, text, PDF's and links. It's simple to get pupils work in one place and share with families.

If a child is told that they must self-isolate whilst the school is open, then resources will be uploaded onto Seesaw for their use. If this method is not suitable to the nature of your child's need then resources can be posted home.

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?

Where possible, pupils will be able to follow broadly the same curriculum remotely as they would have accessed at school.

Depending on the learning needs of your child, types of activity will vary but Personalised Holistic Learning Objectives (PHLO) targets will be considered and reflected in the work set.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

Arbour Vale School educates children with a wide range of complex needs aged between 2½ - 19. The amount of time your child is engaged in remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) is very much dependent on their level of engagement and focused attention to the activity. The nature of the learning activity and the length of time spent on each activity is completely reliant on your child's level of attentiveness and concentration. Some learning activities will be short and sharp whilst other work may take a little longer. Do not feel that work has to be completed immediately and all at once. Seesaw allows you to return to a piece of work over and over again before submitting. Any work not completed is automatically saved in the draft folder.

Accessing remote education

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

Arbour Vale School uses Seesaw as their virtual, remote, learning environment. Pupils will need access to an IT device (iPad, tablet, Chromebook, laptop etc).

Whilst this method of learning is not suited to all pupils when absent from school, it offers greater independence to the learner and the opportunity for families to share in the learning. If you experience any difficulties accessing the learning or require the loan of sensory resources, please do contact your child's classroom teacher.

If you are without access to technology hardware or have no connection to the internet, Arbour Vale will be able to help through the loan of equipment. In some cases, where connection is not possible pupils are provided with printed materials. Please get in touch with the school via email or phone if you need help.

Email: OfficeAdmin@arbourvaleschool.org

Telephone Number: 01753 515560

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

Arbour Vale School recognises that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. The school takes the following approach to support those pupils that are unable to access remote education:

If a pupil cannot access an IT device at home, then there is a loan library in place from the school. Should you require to borrow a Chromebook from the school please contact rachel.smet@arbourvaleschool.org If a device is provided on loan, then it is the parents responsibility to collect it from the school's reception during school hours. An IT agreement will be signed and username and password details handed out. The device will be returned to the school when the pupil returns.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Arbour Vale School use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

Depending on the need of the pupil, types of work set will vary but should look a lot like the following. PHLO targets considered throughout.

MLD	SLD	ASD	PMLD
Daily activities set following current topic area; • Literacy • Numeracy • 1 Core Skill Plus, weekly work from specialist subjects	Daily activities set following current topic area; • Literacy • Numeracy • 1 Core Skill Plus, weekly work from specialist subjects	Daily activities set following current topic area; • Colour sorting • Letter matching • Letter Tracing • Story Books for parents to read Work and activities set are supported by the use of sensory materials and concrete objects in combination with the verbal guidance provided Plus, weekly work from specialist subjects	Daily activities set following current topic area; • Sensory based tasks and 'recipes' • YouTube links to songs or topic based videos with tasks to do after/whilst watching them • Videos of sensory stories • Tac Pac music for the pupils to follow along with at home Plus, weekly work from specialist subjects

On occasions where pupils are not engaging with the technology then work will we posted home. The school encourages all pupil work to be uploaded to Seesaw. This evidences the learning that has taken place and informs teachers of next steps on the learning journey.

The schools primary aim is to provide high quality learning opportunities, using every means available. Teachers are encouraged to use a wide range of approaches to meet individual needs. Most teachers will use Seesaw to provide the structure for their lessons as it acts as a virtual classroom and allows them to complete activities remotely, ask questions, set tasks and set activities. Sometimes, teachers will also use online videos, power points, recorded lessons, online textbooks, extended projects and online software.

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?

Arbour Vale expects pupils to engage with remote education as much as possible.

Parents may find it helpful to set a routine when supporting their child's learning.

Pupils' attendance to remote lessons is recorded in a similar manner to those pupils who are at school and the levels of online work are monitored. Pupils are expected to attend lessons and participate. Parents are expected to ensure that pupils are engaging with the lesson activities and are taking a break, away from the screen, when they would usually have a break-time or between lessons.

The school would like to encourage all parents and caregivers to watch the 'Introduction to See-Saw' video that has been posted on our website (under the VLE tab) and our YouTube site to help you understand the remote learning platform.

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

Attendance to remote learning lessons is regularly checked.

If a concerning pattern of behaviour appears, then parents are contacted by the school. Pupils are expected to engage in their lesson activities on Seesaw and to complete any offline work they have been set.

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. Arbour Vale's approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

As soon as pupils complete and submit their work on Seesaw it is seen by the class teacher. Feedback is given and the work is either approved and automatically sent to the pupil's journal or it is sent back to their inbox to be corrected and completed.

Feedback can be via written and/or voice methods. Pupils will receive feedback on all of their work by the class teacher.

Class teachers can then upload pieces of work to our Evidence for Learning platform to monitor pupil progress.

Assessment is used regularly by the teacher to enable them to work out how well the children are learning and to modify the lessons where required.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs

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

Arbour Vale recognise that some of our pupils, with more profound special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access remote education without support from adults at home. The school acknowledges the difficulties this may place on families, and will work with parents and carers to support those pupils. If you have a child who needs such support and you feel the methods of learning are not providing this, please do contact the school immediately so that adaptions to the work can be made.

Work provided on Seesaw will be appropriate to the level of need of your child and weekly 'catch up' phone calls home will be made to help support families in delivering remote education for pupils with SEND. Extra provisions can be provided if necessary i.e. Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) timetables and symbols sent home.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, how remote education is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school.

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

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, how remote education is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school. Where possible all of the same methods and approaches outlined in this document will be delivered.

Pupils self-isolating are taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects. The work set will be in line with the work covered in school on the same topic area. Class teachers and Special Teaching Assistants will provide valuable feedback.