

Horden Nursery School



Remote Learning Offer
2021

Remote education provision: information for parents /carers

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education.

The aim of education is to deliver a high-quality curriculum so that pupils know more and remember more. Remote education is one way of doing so, when pupils are unable to access education within school. The remote education curriculum needs to be aligned to the classroom curriculum as much as possible and this is what school has refined over the last few months.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

- Hornden Nursery School has a remote learning platform on Class Dojo. All families are connected to the school account and clear instructions about how to access home learning will be provided to parents in written form or via email.
- All families will be provided with clear communication channels about what to do if they cannot access remote learning or need support with additional provisions.
- Daily videos and activities will be uploaded to the online platform of class Dojo for all children to access from home.
- Teachers will provide daily, prompt feedback, next steps for children and support through comments through the Dojo App.
- Remote education will be planned around the 7 areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, based upon small group activities.
- Information, activities and videos relevant to all children will be posted to the 'school story' while specific learning for children's groups will be posted to individual 'class stories.'

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 wherever possible and appropriate.
- However, as children learn through play, based around their interests and enthusiasms, we have had to adapt to make the remote curriculum accessible to all. We have provided packs of resources, to support parents with activities in the home.

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:

Early Years Pupils (Nursery and Reception aged 2-3)	45min of activities set by school.
Early Years Pupils (Nursery and Reception aged 3-5)	1 hour - 1 hour 30 mins of activities set by school.

Accessing remote education

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

- We use Class Dojo as an online tool to provide learning resources.
- Dojo is an app that allows teachers to assign learning activities to children. It also allows children the opportunity to share their learning with their teacher for feedback and acknowledgement.
- We think this will be very helpful to our families who will be engaging in distance learning. It is envisaged that when your child has completed their activity, a photo or short video clip of it can be simply taken and sent to the child's Key Person. The Key Person is then able to provide feedback and any possible next steps for your child.

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:

- We fully appreciate that not everyone has access to technology at home. Those children who are unable to access online activities will be given paper-based activities.
- We have also ensured that all children have received a 'home learning pack' of materials to be able to complete activities at home.
- The system has been set up so that parents and carers, at a minimum, only need a smart phone to access the remote learning. Those who do not wish to access the online learning through the Dojo App, will be emailed activities daily.
- Should it become apparent that a family is struggling to access the work due to technological limitations within the household, the school will work with the family to support them with this matter.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Asynchronous education, when materials are prepared by the teacher and accessed by the pupil at a later date, is our main offer. Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- Home activity packs were given out in January 2021 to all children, including new starters.
- The pack contains a book, scissors, marker pens, pencils, whiteboards, dice, play dough, card, paper, number cards and advice and support for parents/ carers on reading, writing, potty training, etc.
- Activities are planned for, due to the age, development and broad interests of the children and can be accessed in any order or revisited.
- In order to ensure continuity and consistency, activities are posted on a daily basis, before 10am.
- Each day, nursery will provide activities for the children to access on class Dojo. Parents/ carers are then able to respond with a photograph, video or written comment uploaded to Dojo via an electronic device – such as a smart phone.
- Teaching staff will be available to engage in online learning using the Dojo application from 8:45 am to 3.00 pm daily.
- Information, activities and videos relevant to all children will be posted to the 'school story' while specific learning for children's groups will be posted to individual 'class stories.'

- Feedback will be provided for each piece of work posted. Feedback should be detailed and meaningful and of the same quality as that of face-to-face teaching in the classroom, offering encouragement where appropriate and areas for improvement should this be apparent. Where appropriate, whole class instructions will also be provided to support the collective learning of the children.
- Teaching staff will re-assess the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments.
- Due thought and attention will also be given to the mental health of the children accessing remote learning by providing additional activities that promote a sense of positive wellbeing; this is really important.
- Regular telephone conversations with parents are also used for support regarding emotional wellbeing for the family.

Other resources :

- Signposting/links to resources: Durham music service rhyme time, online library service story time videos.
- Activities available on Horden Nursery School website

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?

- Horden Nursery School acknowledges that teaching children at home can be challenging. However, we expect learning to take place everyday, Monday-Friday, for a set period of time.
- We understand that families may need flexibility and can therefore access activities around parental working hours or family pressures on technology.
- Horden Nursery School also welcomes parents and carers to use Class Dojo as a means for communicating directly with nursery, through the messages function. Responses will be prompt and support offered wherever possible.

We expect parents to:

- Seek help from the school if they need it.
- Be respectful when making any comments or concerns known to nursery.
- Support their children with home learning activities.

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

- Staff will monitor Dojo App daily, to ensure nursery children are engaging in learning. If a child is not engaging in learning and there has been no communication with school, the parent or carer of the child will be contacted and sensitively offered support. (As nursery education is non statutory this will be handled in a sensitive manner)
- Teachers will give feedback on a daily basis. Feedback is quicker and more effective online with Class Dojo. If there are any concerns raised, teachers will contact parents/carers.
- The Assistant Head Teacher will also be monitoring engagement levels using Class Dojo. Where a child is not engaging, she will also reach out to the parents and carers to offer the appropriate support.

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

- Class Dojo allows a conversational feedback model to be adopted.
- Teaching staff will respond in a timely manner to any queries from a child or a parent regarding the activities provided or any other reasonable matter associated with this. As in line with the code of conduct policy, all communication and interaction will be strictly professional in nature.
- Teaching staff will monitor the pace or difficulty of activities in response to questions or assessments where necessary.

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?

We recognise that all nursery pupils will not be able to access remote education without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers to support in the following ways:

- All children will be provided with appropriate differentiated activities.
- Any child with a specific need will be catered for and adjustments made in order for them to access the curriculum that is relevant to their specific needs. All children who have an EHC plan will have individual plans developed to support home learning.
- If your child requires further specific support, please contact nursery on 0191 5865415 or via email hordennursery@durhamlearning.net

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?

- Pupils self-isolating will be educated via activities on Class Dojo and/or paper-based approaches and will have access to the same curriculum as those in school where appropriate.

Mrs Natalie Parkinson

Headteacher

Horden Nursery School

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