

Supporting your pupils' online education in the event of a school closure

Strictly Education 4S is mindful of some questions and concerns you may have regarding remote learning in the event of school closures. We have recently joined forces with 3BM Education who are now part of the Strictly Education group and will provide you with the guidance and support for working remotely to ensure that your pupils will still receive the education they need to succeed.

It is important to consider the limitations to remote learning, such as:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to WIFI and devices may be limited as not all homes have multiple devices to work from.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some families will need to rely on the childcare of older relations who may have limited knowledge when using online resources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some families may not have the WIFI capacity for all members of the family to use it during the same time periods.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families with children of differing ages will need to balance who goes online accordingly. For example, exam level students may take priority.

Advice for schools in the event of a school closure:

- Think about how you can best mobilise and explain to parents the continued need to support learning?
- How you can keep in contact with your staff remotely and efficiently.
- How will you train your staff in how to use and administer the online resources at home to enable them to support their pupils learning.
- How often would you aim to go carry out online interactive sessions with your pupils? Have a plan set in place so that everyone has a clear view on what to expect.
- Think about the current communication channels in place within your school. Are these channels suitable for delivering the necessary information to pupils, staff and parents to ensure that education standards are still being met? If not, how can you improve the way communications are delivered in the approaching, challenging times should your school need to close? These may be shared spaces such as:

- One Drive
- Google Drive
- School websites
- Parent apps
- Emails
- Facebook groups
- Parent Teacher Association group

Key activities and ideas to consider for remote learning:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide engaging, accessible books and basic learning tools for families who perhaps have little or no online access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan a strategic timetable for when and who will be teaching the relevant subjects and how activities will be shared online to support remote education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refresh pupil accounts for online learning tools for example, DoodleMaths, Times Table Rock Stars and Purple Mash etc
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide all teachers with reminders of their username and passwords for any online materials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide on core teaching tools and websites – for example Office 365, Teams, Google, SeeSaw (real-time video conferencing is usually for secondary schools) and ensure staff are aware of how to access, use and share work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customise learning packs for targeted years e.g. SATs years, EYFS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you subscribe, remind staff about the wealth of resources on www.j2e.com and the need for pupils to log in. Make sure staff are familiar with the 'pupil files' area in j2e.com. Here staff can view the folders of individual classes, pupils' work and can assess, give feedback and begin a learning conversation with classes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that your school is up-to-date with payments for any subscriptions such as Purple Mash and Mathletics to ensure access is available

Companies are offering free access to resources, but it is important that precautions are put in place to ensure that any new or unfamiliar material will not distract pupils from what they are meant to be learning.

Parents may not want their children on screens all day so a #Digital5aDay approach is key. Promoting offline activities is key and reminders of daily physical activity is essential.

For more information please visit: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day/>

Remember that the 3BM Education team is always here to support you at all times so please don't hesitate to make contact for further support. The 3BM Education team is now part of the Strictly Education group and provides Primary Computing Curriculum support. If you have any queries, or you are interested in finding out more about the 3BM Education Curriculum team, please contact:

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