



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

With Christ at our side and St. Gerard as our guide, we live, love, learn and pray together.

Remote Learning Offer

St. Gerard's Catholic Primary School will always seek to work with children and families to tackle the issues of long term absence. However, we recognise that for various reasons such as long term illness or Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA), children may not be physically attending school. In these scenarios it is key we act promptly and efficiently, so our pupils are not prevented from making progress.

What is EBSA?

EBSA stands for Emotionally Based School Avoidance. It is a term used in reference to a group of children and young people who have difficulty in attending school due to emotional factors, sometimes resulting in prolonged absences from school.

School avoidance can be seen as a form of coping strategy: a behaviour seen in pupils who, for whatever reason, are finding being in school difficult. The non-attendance may be conscious and planned, or it may be an instinctive response to a sense of threat (different presentations of EBSA could be viewed as either reflecting fight, flight or freeze patterns of behaviour).

For some, an avoidant strategy might be used to miss particular lessons, whilst others might resist attending altogether.

'Attendance resistance' can arise suddenly in response to a significant event, or it can be more insipid, developing slowly over time.





In addition to "EBSA", occasionally the term "Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance" (EBSNA) is also used and there are several other variations. The phrase 'School Refusal' was used more often in the past, but has largely fallen out of favour because for many it implies the child is 'refusing' school from a position of authority and strength, whereas for the majority it is often from a position of fear or some kind of emotional overwhelm.

The SLT along with support from mental health agencies (such as Compass) will look at the barriers and seek to avoid prolonged absence from school.

Remote learning offer:

If our children are to access remote learning they will do so via Microsoft teams and the use of Purple Mash.

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if the school requires cohorts to remain at home.

BE ON TIME Log on a few minutes early. 	BE PREPARED Make sure your device is charged. Find a quiet place. Turn your camera on.	PRESENTATION Wear appropriate clothing. Sit up straight. Be in camera view. 
MUTE YOURSELF Mute yourself when a teacher or another child is talking.	PARTICIPATION Be focused. Be attentive. Be an active participant.	BE RESPECTFUL Raise your hand to speak. Type your question in the chat box.
COMMUNICATION Speak clearly. Look up when speaking. Stay on topic. 	BE SAFE Stay on topic and do not share personal information eg. address. Find a neutral background, blur the background or add one of your own.	ENJOY THE MOMENT No photographs or recordings should be taken during a meet. Other devices should not be used. 



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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?

From the first day of remote learning, work will be provided on Purple Mash for your child to access and complete.

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, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, our curriculum is usually very hands-on and interactive, with a strong focus on collaborative learning. We are aware that physical resources we use in school are not available in all homes, and we will only ask for resources to be used that are commonly found in a household setting. We are also aware that your child may be working independently to complete their remote learning and may not have other siblings to collaborate with, so the teachers have amended and adjusted their planning accordingly to provide other options to our planned curriculum. Remote learning will rarely be 'new learning' set, rather it will be learning that the children have already accessed in school before. Therefore, children can better readily access the learning and use remote learning as an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding.

Remote learning time

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

We expect that remote education will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

- Pupils in our Foundation Stage provision Approx. 3 hours a day
- Pupils in KS1 -3 hours+ a day
- Pupils in KS2 -4 hours+ a day

Accessing remote education

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

We are currently using Purple Mash and Microsoft Teams as our online remote learning platform. Your child's login and password should have already been shared with you at the start of this academic year (this will be different to the one you were issued with last year) – often it is attached in the front of your child's reading record book. A link to Microsoft Teams will be sent out via email.

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:

- If your child is unable to access online learning, please contact school to discuss. In this first instance we are able to provide printed materials if your child(ren) do not have online access.



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These printed materials can then be returned to school via the school office who will then pass them onto teachers for feedback. The teachers will then contact your child to discuss their learning, as required.

- We can lend notebooks to families, if they sign and agree to SLA.

If you feel you require support with attendance, or feel you need support with remote learning please contact the school office or speak to a member of the SLT.

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