

Remote Learning (2025-2026)



Our Approach at St Joseph's School

In line with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), schools are expected to provide immediate access to remote education where a class, group of pupils or individual pupils are required to remain at home. This may be due to illness, self-isolation or other exceptional circumstances.

At St Joseph's School, we are committed to ensuring continuity of learning for all pupils. To support this, we use Microsoft Teams as our main platform for blended and remote learning. This allows us to continue teaching and supporting children whether learning is taking place in school, at home, or a combination of both.

Microsoft Teams is used weekly for home learning tasks and communication, and it will also be used to support any child who needs to remain at home for a period of time. If your child is required to learn from home, you will be contacted by the school and informed that daily learning will be available through your child's Microsoft Teams class.

This approach forms part of our journey towards blended learning, where learning can continue seamlessly both in the classroom and at home when needed.

What is Microsoft Teams?

Microsoft Teams is a free Microsoft app and website designed to support teaching and learning in a secure, paperless environment. It allows teachers to create, share and assess learning efficiently while keeping pupils connected to their class learning.

Teachers at St Joseph's use Microsoft Teams to:

- Share announcements and messages with classes
- Upload lesson resources, presentations, videos and documents
- Set classwork and home learning assignments
- Provide feedback on pupils' work

Children can use Microsoft Teams to:

- Access learning covered in class while at home
- Complete and submit home learning
- Revisit lesson materials at their own pace
- Collaborate appropriately with classmates on shared tasks

Parents and carers can also support children by helping them access and manage their learning on Microsoft Teams.

Microsoft Teams can be accessed on any internet-enabled device, including laptops, desktop computers, tablets and mobile phones, either through a web browser or by downloading the free app. If you do not have access to suitable technology, please contact the school office so we can discuss how best to support you.

Benefits of Using Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams offers a range of benefits that support teaching and learning at St Joseph's:

Teachers can set and manage classwork and home learning tasks efficiently

Learning resources can be accessed both in and out of school

Useful website links are shared in one central place for easy access

It is part of the free Microsoft Office 365 education suite (including Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Forms)

Children can upload work securely for teachers to review and provide feedback

It supports collaboration and communication between pupils where appropriate

It helps to develop pupils' digital literacy skills, preparing them for future education and the wider world

Each class Team also includes links to regularly used learning platforms and websites to make accessing resources easier for pupils.

Accessing Microsoft Teams

Children will be shown in class what their Microsoft Teams 'Class Team' looks like and how to use it. We encourage parents and carers to log in with their child as soon as possible to become familiar with the platform.

Each child has a unique username and password. Login details can be found:

In the Home Reading Journal for pupils in Years 1–6, or

Provided directly to parents and carers in Nursery and Reception

If you do not have your child's login details, please contact their class teacher or the school office.

Teaching, Safeguarding and Future Development

We continue to develop our use of Microsoft Teams as part of our blended learning approach. Staff receive ongoing training to ensure learning is effective, accessible and safe.

Where appropriate, lesson inputs and resources may be provided through Microsoft Teams to support children who are learning from home. These may include pre-recorded lesson inputs or shared presentations and resources. Any recorded materials will include only the teacher's voice and screen, in line with safeguarding and GDPR requirements. Children learning from home will not be able to see staff or other pupils.

We appreciate that blended learning may be new for some families. Staff at St Joseph's have been working hard to develop their practice, and we recognise that aspects of this approach may continue to evolve. We thank parents and carers for their patience and support as we work together to provide the best possible learning experience for all children.

If you have any questions or concerns about remote or blended learning, please do not hesitate to contact the school.