

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 entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

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?

To support education in the first phase, pupils were emailed/sent (via mail) a work pack focusing on recapping skills from the Autumn term.

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.

Please note that our main education approach will be through Zoom in the form of live remote sessions.

English/Maths/Learning Journey/Options (KS3 and KS4)

We will teach the same content in school and remotely, ensuring that, as best as possible, the pace is similar. We are doing this because we have a combination of full time, part-time and fully remote pupils and appreciate that the situation regarding attendance is ever changing.

We will continue to teach through text at KS3, and will support our pupils with resource packs that are either mailed, available through MyMaths or accessed via Edmodo.

The learning journey at KS3 and option choices at KS4 will comply with the plans for Spring term, meaning the content will be exactly the same regardless of where and how they are learning.

Art/Food Tech (KS3)

Due to the equipment needed to complete art and food tech projects, we will adapt work at remote level to ensure that it is accessible. Work packs, supported by PowerPoints where applicable, will be utilised.

P.E (KS3)

P.E will be delivered remotely focusing on wellbeing. Sessions will be directed towards active participation, including circuit training and quizzes. There will be an emphasis on the social aspect of P.E, ensuring that our pupils are engaging in physical activity at least twice a week.

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:

Primary school-aged pupils	All primary pupils are attending full-time or as near to full-time as possible. The 1 student remaining at home will be taught remotely, via Zoom, in the core subject areas daily.
Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	Please see below
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	Please see below

	KS3 (per week)	KS4 (per week)
Core	Up to... 3hr 45 mins of literacy 3hr 45 mins of numeracy	Up to... 3hr 45 mins of literacy 3hr 45 mins of numeracy
Non-core	3hr 45 mins of other curriculum subjects, including science, animal care, art, learning journey, P.E and P.S.D.	1hr 30 mins for each additional option choice (2 times a week) (Music will be delivered in 1:1 30 minute sessions)
Personal and Social	If applicable, any other wellbeing activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colouring • Yoga • Reading for pleasure • Mini STEM projects. 	If applicable, any other wellbeing activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colouring • Yoga • Reading for pleasure • Mini STEM projects.

Accessing remote education

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

Upon returning to school, all parents/carers will be phoned to identify who will remain at home. During this call, the following options of remote learning will be offered:

- Work packs sent home via post supported by timely tutor phone calls for marking and feedback.
- A personalized virtual classroom space with activities to complete supported by timely tutor phone calls/email responses for marking and feedback.
- Remote learning lessons that can be accessed from home.
- 1:1 telephone sessions (if availability permits).

A remote communications log will be implemented for each student. Once we identify who will be working remotely, a weekly programme of activities will be drawn up with parents/carers contacted weekly with updated plans.

- All staff will sign up for Zoom for Education.
- Remote learning will begin on Monday 11th January, with all students given instructions on how to set up Zoom through our personalised User Guide.
- Rebecca Ember, our Remote Learning Liaison Officer, will support parents/carers remotely and offer technical support if and when necessary.
 - This technical support will be available throughout the lockdown period.

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 have some pupils that do not have access to electronic devices or the Internet. In these situations, we offer:

- Work books supported by tutor phone support as and when necessary.
- Where possible, we will try to support pupils through the donation of technology.
- We will ensure that paper resources are mailed ahead of time to ensure that smart phones can be used as a means to access Zoom.
- If students are not engaging, we will make efforts for them to attend school in some capacity.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

We are using a combination of:

- Zoom Live Learning – 4 Live Remote Sessions daily both at KS3 and KS4.
- Pre-recorded lessons if applicable.
- Edmodo – For electronic resource sharing in English.
- MyMaths – For lesson content and activities in Maths KS4.
- Work packs – Mailed on a weekly basis to support all subject areas in KS3.
- 1:1 Telephone Sessions – in situations where remote learning is not available.
- Individualised application access.

We are encouraging teaching staff to use a variety of methods within online learning, and all have taken CPD that exposes them to the myriad features that Zoom offers alongside general guidance for remote learning.

Screen sharing will be used as the main teaching tool, but we are encouraging teachers to be creative, and plans include:

- Live Reading Sessions
- Circuit training
- Group Quizzes
- Social Skills time so that pupils can 'catch-up'
- Annotation in group/pair work.

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?

We are taking an individualised approach to expectations, ensuring that we find a suitable balance for each pupil based on their profile.

Up to 4 remote lessons (45 minutes each) will be on offer a day, with literacy and numeracy covered every day. Afternoons will be used as a time for personalised support, meaning pupils have time to speak to their subject teachers/tutors if they need academic support/support with their wellbeing.

As a minimum expectation, we expect all of our pupils to complete some literacy and numeracy every day and, for most, we expect attendance at all sessions.

We, as best as possible, are empowering parents to be a part of the education process and have actively opened a communications link with our remote learning liaison officer so that they can be supported with this.

We will, at the end of week 3 and 6, gather concrete feedback so we can strive for improvement.

We expect that parents/carers will be pro-active in sending back work so that it can be marked and fed back on.

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

We will phone once a week as standard, and on more occasions if we notice a pattern of non-attendance or engagement.

We will gather information at the end of each session, and those flagged as red can expect an afternoon phone call on the same day to manage issues.

Our aim is to exhaust all options, adopting a 'new day' approach to managing behaviours. Indeed, we expect that there will be new challenges, and if a pupil has been removed from a session, this will not result in any further punitive measures for the first two weeks.

If sustained and disruptive behaviours continue over longer periods, we will resort to a pre-recorded version of lesson access.

We will, upon receiving work back, ensure that 1:1 sessions are offered to those who are not making the expected academic progress.

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. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

We will track subjects using a RAG system related to attendance, engagement and academia. Personalised comments will be added, and feedback will be given once work has been sent back electronically or via the self-addressed work pack envelopes that will be provided to each pupil who is working remotely.

Evidence, both at KS3 and KS4, will be gathered through a variety of means, including:

- Completed work sheets
- Electronic work sheets during sessions.
- Verbal responses as evidenced by the subject teacher.
- In special circumstances, saved 'chats' evidencing interaction between the teacher and pupil.

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 some pupils, for example some pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may 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 those pupils in the following ways:

We will involve parents/carers in all aspects of the remote learning process, and would encourage their participation and support to aid the children during the lockdown period.

During week 3, we will phone all parents/carers to ensure that they feel comfortable with the content. We can offer informal CPD/alternative activities should they support with their children.

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?

In the situation where children are sent to self-isolate, they should, with the exception of Art/Food Tech/P.E, follow the exact content that has been taught in school and would continue to be taught if they were present.

They would then access the work packs and remote sessions alongside their remote peers for Art/Food Tech/P.E.

For those that do not have access to our remote timetable, we will give them work packs that best cover the skills and knowledge we are covering over the period of time they are absent.

Upon their return to school, TAs will be allocated to these said people to ensure any gaps in knowledge can be filled.