

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 where national or local restrictions or self-isolation result in our pupils remaining at home.

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?

All pupils have access to Google Classroom which is available to pupils from the first day of working from home.

If your child does not have access to a device which enables access to on-line learning they will be provided a school laptop and will have been instructed on how to use it. If they are not at school when the isolation period begins it may take us a day or two to get one to you but this will be done as quickly as possible. During this time, we will email work to the parent for the pupil to do and staff will phone to check that they are able to access it, and provide help where necessary.

We will provide pupils with paper based work if this is their preference, along with practical activities where it is appropriate

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?

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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, we cannot easily do the practical elements of construction and science etc

Where possible we will replace practical demonstrations with video or live streamed events to ensure that pupils are able to still learn the skills that these practical demonstrations build in pupils.

In addition, we will send home cooking ingredients, art projects and Thrive activities to encourage our pupil's independence skills and emotional wellbeing. Each pupil will receive an education package bespoke to meet their needs.

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:

Key Stage 3 and 4 Pupils should be expecting to work and be provided with work that will take them 5 hours to achieve.

Accessing remote education

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

Pupils will be provided with:

- A laptop if required
- A school email account and address
- Access to Google Classroom – This will be the main platform for pupils to receive work

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Pupils are able to email staff any questions that may have, if they are not able to engage with live lessons.

IT support will be available to all pupils and parents as required.

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:

Going forward we aim to:

- Provide a laptop on loan to any pupil who is out of school, within 48 hour of the absence starting
- Provide internet access by a Wi-Fi dongle where families do not have this already
- Supply pupils with printed materials needed via post or home delivery if they do not have online access or are unable to work online

Where pupils cannot submit work online we will make efforts to be able to collect work from pupil's home addresses (where this is viable)

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Pupils will be taught in a number of different ways

- live teaching (online lessons) where staff will interact with pupils in much the same way as they do at school. Google Meet will be used in conjunction with Google classroom to provide interactive lessons
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home

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- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences such as Mathletics and Spelldrome.
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities but this will be used sparingly and only in subjects such as art and design where practical work is difficult to achieve.

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 expect parents to:

- Support their child to engage with online learning by ensuring that they are up and ready to learn
 - Try to ensure that their child has an area where school work can be done in an ordered fashion
 - Understand that live online learning means that parents cannot be seen on camera or be able to see other pupils
 - To inform school if you are having issues so that we can offer support and guidance
 - Support your child to look after the school equipment and use it responsibly

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

- We will check and record pupil engagement with work on a daily basis. All online sessions will be recorded as to whether your pupil is working in a face to face, independently or not engaging with education.

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- Where pupils are not engaging with their education a phone call will be made to parents to highlight that this is the case.

Where we have safeguarding concerns these will be raised with parents immediately.

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

- Pupils who are working face to face will receive constant feedback as though they were in the classroom. Their work can be submitted electronically, shown to staff and through discussion
- Staff will use several types of electronic quizzing platforms to check understanding and enable staff to feedback on areas of development
- Submitted paper based work will be marked as per school policy and returned to pupils with future work packs.

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?

- Staff will contact parents to ensure appropriate support is available to ensure their child is able to access their education, and also to ensure that parents are supported themselves.
- Staff will provide support and guidance where parents inform us that they have issues that they need assistance with
- Staff will make regular in person welfare checks on families

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

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There will be no difference between the education of those self-isolating, those whose parents have decided to keep their pupils at home or those who are off school for non Covid 19 reasons. All pupils, no matter what their circumstances, will be able to continue with their education through remote learning.

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