

Remote Education Provision: Information for Families

January 2021

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students 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 students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

A student'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 students being sent home?

• This may include sending students home with workbooks or packs to complete independently in the first instance and/or login details for learning websites that we already use in school.

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 may need to make some adaptations in some subjects; for example, practical subjects such as Science, Food Technology, Art, Health & Fitness and Learning Outside the Classroom, where access to equipment and facilities may be limited.

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 students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Secondary school-aged students not working towards formal qualifications this year (Years 7-10)	4 hours
Secondary school-aged students working towards formal qualifications this year (Year 11)	5 hours

Accessing remote education

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

• Each student can access their virtual classroom through Microsoft Teams by opening the app on their school laptop or by going to office.com and logging in with their school email address and password.

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 students may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:

- All students have their own laptop in school, which can be loaned for use at home if needed. Where students are unable to take these home, they will be delivered by staff as soon as possible. A loan agreement will be signed by families which includes our IT acceptable user agreement.
- We will contact families to check whether they have internet access at home. If support is needed, we can provide wireless routers free of charge.
- Printed materials in the form of a home learning pack will be delivered to students who are unable to access online learning for any reason, usually on a weekly basis.
- Completed work will be collected by staff the following week when the subsequent home learning pack is delivered.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons) through Microsoft Teams.
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers) through Microsoft Teams.
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets).
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences (e.g. IXL, BKSB, Mathletics).
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities where appropriate.

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?

- The remote education timetable mirrors each student's timetable in school, so provision is available from 8:00am to 2:00pm.
- We expect students to engage with remote education for a minimum of 4 hours per day (or 5 out of 6 lessons). This will include regular breaks and a lunch break. We recognise that our students benefit from having some choice over which lessons they engage in and that some will need to gradually build up their level of engagement over time.
- We expect parents and carers to support this by setting routines to support your child's education and by ensuring they have access to a quiet space in which to learn. Regular communication with school staff is encouraged by telephone or e-mail.

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 students' engagement with remote education on a daily basis through Microsoft Teams.
- A telephone call will be made daily to all students working remotely.
- Where engagement is a concern, we will inform parents and carers by telephone call or e-mail.

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 student work is as follows:

- We will use Microsoft Teams to assess and feed back on students' work. Students may be asked to complete an online quiz, engage in discussion, upload written work or attach photographs as evidence of their learning.
- Students will receive feedback on their work at least weekly in each subject. This may take the form of written or oral feedback, usually via the Microsoft Teams virtual classroom.
- Students using paper packs will have their work collected each week for marking. Teachers will keep these packs in school until students return and will provide feedback by e-mail, telephone or video call to students on their work.

Additional support for students 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 students, for example some students 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 students in the following ways:

- As a special school, we are highly aware of individual students' needs and will continue to provide personalised support to all students as far as possible.
- Arrangements will be in place for pastoral interventions and therapies, as outlined in students' EHCPs, to continue remotely where possible, using a combination of home visits, telephone calls and video/Teams calls.

Remote education for self-isolating students

Where individual students 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 students 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?

Provision for students who are self-isolating will not differ from any other remote education as outlined in this document, other than staff being unable to make home visits.