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 require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

Due to our provision, the most vulnerable pupils who are risk assessed to be able to be on site, where staffing and space allow, will continue to attend (i.e. we will not close)

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?

Pupils who have access to IT facilities will be set work through teacher dashboard, which may incorporate our other learning portals.

Those without access to IT will initially be provided with a paper based work pack-this will also apply to pupils whose chosen way of working is paper based rather than via computer.

As a school, we are in a position to lend laptops to those without access provided parents are willing to sign documentation taking responsibility for the equipment.

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?

- For those who choose to access remote lessons, we teach the broadly 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, some practical subjects will need to address theoretical elements of their curriculum as pupils will not have access to specialist tools, equipment or spaces. This may mean that the order of the curriculum will be adapted accordingly.

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	4 hours, 40 minutes as there are 7 x 40 minute sessions each day, except on Friday, when it will be 3 hours 20 minutes, representing 5 x 40 minute sessions.

Accessing remote education

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

Face to Face lessons will be taught through Teams, supplemented by Mymaths, Lexia reading and Sumdog. Work should be submitted via Teacher Dashboard or by direct email if 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 approaches listed in the first section of this document.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live teaching (online lessons) whenever possible, following the daily lesson structure set out above

- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets) for those who choose not to engage in the online lessons

- long-term project work and/or internet research activities for those pupils required to do coursework towards their qualifications, usually key stage 4.

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?

Pupils are expected to:

- Be contactable during the school day.

- Complete work to the deadline set by teachers.

- Seek help if they need it, from teachers or teaching assistants.

- Alert teachers if they're not able to complete work.

- Behave appropriately during online learning and meet the expectations set out in the Behaviour Policy

Parents are expected to:

- Provide an appropriate, quiet space for their child to learn

- Make the school aware if their child is sick or otherwise can't complete work.

- Seek help from the school if they need it either from subject teachers, subjects lead, IT support or JT as remote learning lead.

- Be respectful when making any complaints or concerns known to staff.

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

- Registers will be taken on behaviourwatch as normal

- Any behavioural or work concerns will be recorded on behaviourwatch as normal

- Teachers and/or Tutors will make contact regarding lack of engagement depending on whether it is lack of engagement in an individual lesson (Teacher) or multiple lessons (Tutor)

- In the first instance, this will be by telephone but we also have parentmail, text messages and our email systems should they be needed.

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:

- Verbal feedback during the lesson regarding individual pieces of work

- Feedback following school policy via our digital platform (teacher dashboard)

- All work will be assessed using either our own LWL criteria (KS3) or course marking materials (KS4)

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:

- All pupils will have tasks differentiated according to individual needs as per policy
- Pupils will be supported, where possible by TAs in lessons and breakout rooms will be used to accommodate those who need intervention.
- Pupils with one to one provision will be supported in lessons as per their provision.
- Pupils are free to make the choice between online lessons and paper based packs.

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?

Pupils with access to IT facilities will be set work via Teacher dashboard by all subject teachers and those who do not wish to access online provision will be provided with a paper pack within 48 hours.