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.

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?

> Upon the announcement of the need for remote education, teachers will set work via the sims student app to be completed. All work should be handed in via the sims app if it is requested by the teacher. Work may consist of worksheets or web based activities such as hegarty maths or Seneca.

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?

> - The curriculum will continue to be taught as we would if the students were still 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, it will not be possible to conduct some science experiments or complete some Art activities due to the specialist equipment needed for these subjects.

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	Your child's timetable will run as it would in school. There will be work set for each of the 5 lessons per day and a mentor session.
	There will be a mixture of zoom live lessons, prerecorded lessons and independent work.
	Your child should expect at least 50% of their timetable to be delivered live by the teacher.

Accessing remote education

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

All work will be set using the sims student app.

The links to the live lessons will also be set via the sims app – These should not be shared with any third parties,

The live lessons will be delivered via the platform Zoom

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.

The school has already provided laptops and 4g routers for remote internet access to all students we are aware of who don't have this at home. If your child does not have access to ICT or internet connection at home then you can contact the school and we will arrange these facilities to be loaned to you, subject to a signed home/ school agreement.

- Parents and carers can apply to loan a laptop from the school.

- Laptops will be loaned out on a needs analysis basis

- If there are issues with connection/internet – please contact the school

- In the event of a student not being able to access online work, please liaise with the student's Head of year, Mentor or Pastoral Support to manager to make alternative arrangements.

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 via Zoom(online lessons)

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)

- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)

- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home

- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

- long-term project work and/or internet research activities

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?

- Students should set up a quiet and calm area in the home to do their lessons. Where possible they should be sat at a table and have no distractions around them.

- Students should be dressed appropriately for school

- There should be no other distractions to disrupt lessons, eg: Games consoles

- Students should have camera's on at the start of each lesson and remain on throughout. Where this is not possible, students will need to engage fully with the lesson via the chat function and verbally to ensure an attendance mark can be awarded for the session.

- Students must have the basic necessary equipment for each lesson ie: Pen, pencil, ruler, calculator etc.

- Parents should encourage students to participate fully in the lessons by setting daily routines to ensure students are ready for learning at the start of each day.

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

Having the cameras on during live lessons allows teachers to engage students more effectively. Teachers will support and encourage students as if they were in the classroom.

In the event of any concerns, the parent will be contacted by the teacher to discuss these. This will either be by telephone or email.

In the event of an attendance concern, the pastoral support manager for the year group will make contact to discuss.

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:

- Level up activities with formative feedback as per the schools marking and feedback policy

- Online quizzes

- Verbal feedback provided during live sessions

- End of term assessments

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 of our Teaching assistants will follow their normal timetable and support the students remotely via the use of the chat function, breakout rooms for small group work and individual support as well as weekly phone calls with a dedicated TA to resolve any issues or concerns which may arise.

- The SEN department will communicate with parents as it would normally, and all SEN reviews will take place remotely to ensure continuation of SEN plans.

- Teachers will differentiate for students as per the student profile wherever this is logistically possible.

- If parents are have any concerns, they should email the SENCO directly to discuss.

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?

Where possible, the normal lessons will be streamed live via zoom. This will consist of the student being able to hear the lesson and view the board.

Where live streaming is not possible, work will be set via the sims app for the individual students.

The work set will consist of tasks to keep students up to date with the curriculum being taught in school.

The tasks may consist of but not limited to, book work, online tasks or research based tasks