

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?

If your son/daughter's year group is required to isolate they should be logging into their MS Teams account to access their remote education.

Both staff and students will follow their normal school timetable each day during isolation, the same as in school. Students should be accessing the correct class Team for each period of the school day where their teachers will have either set an assignment to complete or will be running a live lesson.

Should your son/daughter's year group be sent home part way through the school day, they should head straight home and log into Teams as soon as possible to join their lessons for the rest of the day. We appreciate it may take some students longer to get home than others; if your son/daughter misses any lessons while travelling they should access the class Team as soon as possible and endeavour to catch up on any missed work.

Staff will communicate with students about their lessons by posting in their class Team. Students should also communicate with their teachers the same way.

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?

Your son/daughter will be taught the same curriculum as if they were in school wherever possible and appropriate. Some adaptations may need to be made in

practical subjects where it might not be possible to continue lessons in exactly the same way as in school.

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:

Secondary school-aged pupils in Years 7-11	Students are expected to complete work for each lesson of the school day. This equates to a minimum of 5 hours each day.
Secondary school-aged pupils in Years 12 and 13	Students are expected to complete work for each lesson of the school day. This will vary each day according to their timetable. Students in sixth form are also expected to keep up with their independent study so should be completing additional work for their subjects during free periods.

Accessing remote education

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

Students will be expected to access their schoolwork through Microsoft Teams. For detailed instructions on how to access Teams please [click here](#).

Teams can be accessed from a variety of platforms including:

- Online (no longer supported in Internet Explorer)
- The desktop app
- Mobile phone or tablet app

- Through an Xbox or PlayStation with a keyboard and mouse connected

Some departments use additional online platforms, meaning some work may be completed outside of Teams. Students should already have log in information for these platforms, but can be requested from their teacher through Teams if necessary:

- Maths: MyMaths
- Science: Kerboodle (KS3) and Activelearn (KS4)
- PE: The Everlearner
- MFL: This is Language
- Seneca
- GCSE Pod

This is not an exhaustive list and as remote education evolves staff may find additional resources which are of benefit to students.

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:

My son/daughter has limited online access (e.g. sharing a device):

Your son/daughter should join lessons at the correct time when a device is available. If they are unable to access a device during the correct time for a lesson they should aim to complete any outstanding work when a device is available. This might mean completing work outside of school hours.

Please note that work does not need to be completed on a computer (i.e. a Word document), and your son/daughter can complete work by hand and upload an image to their assignment. This might be preferable if your son/daughter only has access to a mobile phone to complete work. You can also join live lessons from a phone or tablet computer if one is available.

We have temporarily lost internet or access to a device:

Please contact general enquiries to ensure your son/daughter's teachers are informed. They will need to access their class Team from the day they were absent online to catch up on any work.

We have no access to the internet or a device:

Please ensure you have contacted the school if you have no ability to access work set on Teams from home. We are able to temporarily loan devices to ensure your son/daughter has online access during any period of remote education.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Your son/daughter should be accessing their normal timetable while isolating. This means they should access each class Team at the correct time of each day.

Staff will use a combination of approaches to teach remotely and will choose methods appropriate to the subject and content being taught. Approaches to remote education include:

- Live lessons (i.e. an online lesson where your son/daughter's teacher will be interacting live with students via a Teams meeting).
- Assignments/Independent work. Staff will be available to talk to students in the class Team but won't be live.
- Blended learning. This method involves a combination of live and assignment work where your son/daughter will join live at the start or end of a lesson and complete independent work for the remainder of the lesson.

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?

What we expect from students:

As a minimum, we expect students to be completing the work set during each lesson of the school day. This means submitting all assignments and joining all live

lessons. As set out above, there are exceptions to this where access to technology might not be available.

During a remote lesson, students are expected to engage with their teachers/lessons the same as if they were in school. Staff will still be able to use the C-System and Reward-System for online behaviour.

Students should also be communicating with their teachers through the class Team if they are not going to be able to meet a deadline. This includes engaging with a teacher if your son/daughter has been tagged in the Team for missing a deadline.

What we expect from parents:

We understand that you may also be working from home or may not be available to support your son/daughter during the school day.

As a parent we would expect you to ensure your son/daughter has appropriate access to a device, including making contact with the school if you do not have access.

We also expect you to support your son/daughter in ensuring they have an appropriate space to work at home.

While we don't expect parents to be checking every day that all work has been submitted, it may be appropriate to check this from time to time. There is no ability for parents to have access to their son/daughter's Teams account, but you can ask them to show you their assignments tab to check all work is up to date. For instructions on how to do this [click here](#).

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

Engagement with remote education will be monitored daily by your son/daughter's teachers for that day. If they have not submitted work for a lesson, or discussed an extension with their teacher, they will be issued with a W2. You can track all behaviour points in the SIMS Parent App and will be able to see which lesson a W2 has been given for.

If your son/daughter is given 5 x W2s or more in a week then a letter will be sent home. As mentioned earlier, you can see an overview of your son/daughter's assignments which may be appropriate if they are not engaging with remote education.

For more details on the W2 System please [click here](#).

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:

Students will be given feedback in a variety of ways including:

- Verbal feedback on tasks during live lessons
- Written/electronic feedback on work submitted via assignments
- Some departments may also use resources which can provide students with instant feedback (e.g. MS Quizzes, Seneca or other subject-specific sites)

Frequency of feedback will be appropriate to the work being set for each class. Your son/daughter should be engaging with their feedback and can post questions for their teachers in the class Team.

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:

SEN students have their own Team where there is TA support available outside of the main class. EHCP, CiC, SEN and vulnerable students receive regular phone calls home to discuss home learning, wellbeing and any further support they require. The SEN department have a dedicated TA providing academic support, students/parents can request support through the Worry Button on the school website. The TA will contact the student and arrange an action plan of support. Should a student continue to find the remote learning a challenge, the school will develop a way forward to ensure students continue to engage with their education from home.

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?

Your son/daughter should still be following their normal timetable to access class work for each lesson of the school day while they are self-isolating.

Work will either be uploaded to the class Team for your son/daughter to access or it will be set as an assignment. Typically, lessons will not be available live, but in some circumstances it may be appropriate for your son/daughter to join their class remotely to complete work live. If this is a suitable option staff will communicate this via the class Team.

Please note that staff will not be able to respond to messages as easily if the rest of your son/daughter's class are still in school. Students should still be encouraged to post questions into the class Team, but staff may not be able to respond instantly.

Remote education for pupils during a school-wide closure

If at any point the school is closed with all pupils, in all year groups, learning remotely (e.g. National Lockdown) then students should access their remote learning in the same way as if their Year group is learning remotely.

Students should continue to log into Teams and follow their school timetable and can expect a variety of live lessons or assignments being set by their teachers.