Remote education provision: Information for Parents

This information is intended to provide clarity 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.

Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

We intend to teach and deliver 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, practical subjects such as art, music, drama and design technology have had to modify their approach and the practical element of science lessons is not possible when pupils and students are working remotely at home.

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

Pupils are following their usual in-school time table of six 50-minute lessons per day. Lessons begin at 9.25am, 10.15am, 11.20am, 12.10pm, 2.00pm and 2.55pm. This represents 5 hours of schooling. There is no expectation that the full 50 minutes will consist of "live" teaching, but will also include pre-set in-lesson tasks and assignments. Some assignments will need to be completed outside lesson times. Teaching staff will provide guidance to pupils and students on the amount of time to spend on tasks and assignments, and which pieces of work are required for submission.

Pupils and students should contact their subject teacher (using school email or MS Teams) if they require additional clarification or support regarding assignments and tasks.

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

Pupils and students can access online remote education by logging on to Microsoft (MS) Teams using their school email account and school system password

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

It is recognised that access to computer hardware and suitable internet broadband connection varies from family to family.

If a pupil or student is not able to access online education due to a lack of appropriate computer hardware it may be possible to access a device through the school. Parents should contact their child's Head of Year in the first instance.

In certain circumstances, where there is no internet connection available at home, it may be possible to access additional 4G data through your mobile provider. Again, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

It may also be possible to offer your child a place in school to access online, remote learning (please contact your child's Head of Year).

How will my child be taught remotely?

MS Teams is the platform used to access remote online education. Teaching staff will use a mix of "live" teaching in real time (video conference lessons), recorded resources such as narrated MS PowerPoint presentations, printed paper packs produces by teachers and textbooks and reading books pupils have at home. Some lessons may be recorded enabling pupils who have missed lessons, or who require further consolidation of content to download these.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement?

All pupils and students must adhere to the following:

1. I will "attend" sessions arranged by my teachers, based on my "normal" in-school timetable.

2. I will only use ICT systems in school, including the internet, e-mail, digital video, mobile technologies, for school purposes.

3. I will only use my school e-mail address and TEAMS account for school related matters.

4. I will not attempt to bypass any computer or user account restrictions to access confidential or otherwise restricted information on the school network.

5. I will not try to bypass the internet filtering system.

6. I will make sure that all electronic communications with pupils, teachers or others are responsible and sensible.

7. I will be responsible for my behaviour when using the Internet. This includes resources I access and the language I use.

8. I will not deliberately browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If I accidentally come across any such material, I will report it immediately to my teacher.

9. I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not cause my school, the staff, pupils or others distress or bring them into disrepute.

10. I will follow the school approach to online safety and not deliberately record/video upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community

11. I will respect the privacy and ownership of others' work on-line at all times.

12. I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies will be filtered, and can be monitored, logged and made available to teachers, to protect me and others and the integrity of school systems.

13. I understand that these rules are designed to keep me safe and that if they are not followed, school sanctions will be applied and my parent(s) will be contacted.

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

All pupils are expected to attend Tutorial sessions that take place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9.00am. Records of attendance at these sessions will be kept. If a pupil does not attend these sessions the Form Tutor will contact home in the first instance. This may be via telephone call or email to the parent. Further necessary contact will be made by the Head of Year.

Teaching staff are also logging the attendance of pupils to live sessions on MS Teams as well as noting levels of engagement in assignments set via Microsoft Teams. If a pupil is not attending lessons, viewing or submitting work the subject teacher will contact home in the first instance. Further necessary contact will be made by the Head of Department and/or Head of Year.

If home contact does not lead to engagement or if contact has not been established, the school may regard this as a safeguarding concern and make the necessary referrals or implement the Child Missing in Education (CME) procedures in collaboration with the Assistant Head (Pastoral)

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 pupils and students. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms are also valid and effective methods.

Teaching staff may use the chat facility to provide feedback directly to individuals. Teaching staff will also mark and comment on assignments set in MS Teams. Engagement, achievement and progress will be recorded by subject staff.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs

Teaching Assistants will provide remote support for SEND pupils who would normally expect to receive support in school. This will take place directly in "live" sessions via MS Teams and by remote consolidation sessions using MS Teams.

Pupils with SEND who struggle to access remote online education may also be offered a place in school to facilitate learning with appropriate supervision and face-to-face support.