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?

It is our aim that students will get a similar experience in their first day or two of being sent home, however, you should expect there to be more task-based work being set rather than any form of "live" teaching

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 have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, our practical subjects, like DT and Art may adjust their units to make them more appropriate for learning at home. Similarly, core PE will be covered differently to how it is done in school.

Remote teaching and study time each day

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

Each day and for each subject, students will be learning remotely through Google Classroom. They will be following their current timetable where possible.

We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take students broadly 5 hours each day.

Accessing remote education

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

Students should have a Google Classroom for each subject on the curriculum. All students have had instructions on how to use Google Classroom through their IT lessons. To access support from staff and the in-class virtual learning activities, students need to log into their timetabled lesson's Google Classroom.

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

Our remote learning plan relies on our students being able to access Google Classroom, which can be accessed using any device that can access the internet, such as a laptop, desktop

computer, tablet or smartphone. Google classroom is available online or by downloading the Google Classroom app from the iOS and Android app store.

- If you have any issues with logging in to Google Classroom or accessing work, please contact your son/daughter's Head of Year.
- If your child does not have any of the devices mentioned above, please contact the Academy as soon as possible following a remote learning announcement so that we can support you. We should be in a position to loan out devices and also have access to some 4G wireless routers.
- If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the academy to request a work pack. Any work completed can be returned to the Academy reception and will be passed on to the appropriate member of the teaching staff.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Each day and for each subject, students will be learning remotely through Google Classroom. They will be following their current timetable where possible.

- Period 1: 08:40 - 09:55 (start time varies depending on the year group that your child is in)
- Form Period: 09:55 - 10:15
- Period 2: 10:15 - 11:15
- Break 11:15-11:25
- Period 3: 11:25 - 12:25
- Period 4: 12:25 - 13:55 (includes a 30 min lunch break - time varies depending on year group)
- Period 5: 13:55 - 15:10 (end time varies depending on the year group that your child is in)

At the start of each lesson, students should log onto the relevant Google Classroom for their subject and their class. When students log into their form Google Classroom, they should answer the register question set to say 'hello' to their teacher; if this is a live session then this may be done in a live manner. Students will be able to see work set by the teacher, engage in individual learning activities and ask and answer questions. There is an expectation that students will actively engage in all their lessons.

Live sessions

Most of our teachers will deliver content in a 'live' manner (either by audio or visual means). Please note that there is no expectation of teachers to carry out live sessions. These sessions will take place using Google Meet accessed from the Google Classroom. Students will be provided with the details of the session. They will be expected to participate in them if they are asked and able to.

Learning Sessions

Each teacher will have uploaded resources and tasks to the relevant Google Classroom for each lesson on the student's timetable. This includes subjects like core PE where, for example, to ensure the well being and health of students.

Students can complete their written work/tasks/homework:

- In their current exercise books (take a photograph to submit)
- In a shared Google document set up by the teacher
- On paper (take a photograph to submit)
- Any other agreed system decided in agreement with the teacher.

These should be submitted via Google Classroom as and when directed to do so by their teacher.

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?

We appreciate that if this situation arises, it may present some challenges for you. We kindly ask for your support so that we can continue to provide high-quality education for your child during this time.

We don't expect you to watch your child all day, and we wouldn't expect parents/carers to get involved in remote lessons in place of our teachers. But, it would be really helpful if you can take an active role in your child's learning by asking them about their day and what work they've done.

Our top tips:
- Try to encourage your child to be ready and dressed for the start of the school day, and to keep to their timetable.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, and make it clear when the school day is over, to separate home and school life
- Plan breaks and exercise into the day to help keep your child active

Please keep in touch with us and do let us know if you're having any difficulties with remote learning. If you have any questions, then please contact your child's Head of Year.

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

There will be a weekly check on whether your child has been engaging with their work and we will make contact with parents/carers if we have any concerns.

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:

- Students will be expected to submit subject work for marking on Google Classroom or using the various digital learning platforms that the Academy subscribes to including, but not limited to, gcsepod, Doddle, Kerboodle, Active Learn and mymaths. Our teachers will give feedback on this work in a timely manner, and the teacher's professional judgment will be used to determine how any feedback, including marking, is given.
- Types of feedback will include but are not limited to:

Verbal feedback	This may take the form of a chat thread during the Google Meet or may occur in the Google Classroom stream using private comments.
Written feedback	Please note that teachers will not be expected to mark all written work. The 'Comment' function in Google applications may be used to add any written feedback to work.
Peer feedback	Students share work and mark it based on specific criteria set by the teacher.
Self-feedback	Teachers share success criteria or mark schemes, and students may mark their own 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:

- Every student with an EHCP, who is not attending school has been allocated a Teaching Assistant (TA). The TA has made contact with the parents/carers and student to introduce themselves and explain their role during this period of remote learning.
- The TA will email the parent at the start of each week to see if there are/have been any issues. Parents are welcome to email their allocated TA at any time during the week if they need any further support or have any questions.
- The TA has joined the Google Classrooms of their allocated students so they have access to live lessons and the resources that have been shared so that they can further support their students with this work if required.
- TAs are arranging smaller follow on sessions for any work that SEN students may be struggling with from their lessons.
- Assisted learning sessions are continuing online. These are for students who have reduced option choices (as specified in their EHCP) at KS4 to get support 1:1 with work.
- Annual EHCP reviews will go ahead as scheduled via a Google Meet or telephone.
- Every student that has a place in the Dyslexia Resource Base will receive a 1 hour weekly virtual 1:1 lesson with Mrs Harber (Dyslexia Specialist Teacher).

The SENCo is available via telephone and email if there are any concerns. Google Meets can be arranged as requested if parents have any concerns.

Remote education for self-isolating students

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

It is our aim to provide "hybrid-lessons" where we can. This means that the student will be able to log into Google Classroom and join a live lesson where some students are being taught in school. However, this may not always be possible. When this is the case, your child should still expect to have work set in their Google Classroom for them to complete and submit back to the member of staff supplying the work.