

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. This document provides the statutory information required for Ofsted and the DfE, but you can find more detailed and practical advice on our Remote Learning Page at: <https://balshaws.thelearningwall.co.uk/wall/student-apps>

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

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

Students should login to ClassCharts where they will find links to all of the learning files which they need and check the calendar in Microsoft Teams for links to live lessons. All links and support that they may need are at: <https://balshaws.thelearningwall.co.uk/wall/student-apps>

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?

Please see below some statements that may be helpful. In this section, please delete all statements that do not apply, and add details if appropriate:

- 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, some practical equipment for experiments in Science or physical activities done in school may not be available in the home.

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	Students follow their school timetable so they will receive 5 hours of learning per day. The lessons
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	themselves may not take the full hour as students will be provided time to upload work and download materials in preparation for their next lesson.
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Accessing remote education

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

Work is set via ClassCharts.

ClassCharts links to materials which are held on our OneDrive Remote Learning area.

Teams is used to hold live lessons.

Use our Learning Wall link: <https://balshaws.thelearningwall.co.uk/wall/student-apps>

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:

- All parents have been asked about limitations that their children may face in accessing online materials. Where parents have informed school that there is no access to a suitable device or the internet, the school has provided either:
 - A laptop/dongle loan
 - A place in school as a vulnerable learner.

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)
- PowerPoints with audio/video recordings to explain learning to students (which can be accessed as many times as students want)..
- Pre-recorded videos and modelling (which can be accessed as many times as students want).
- Printable worksheets and resources stored in the Remote Learning Folder on the School OneDrive
- 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

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?

Expectations of Students:

- It is expected that all students will attend live lessons where scheduled
- All students will check work on ClassCharts on a daily basis.
- All students will submit work as requested to their teachers using the digital platforms provided.

Expectations of parents:

- Parents will support their children's learning routine, structured day following the school timetable.
- Parents will check their ClassCharts parent app to see what work is being expected of their children.
- Parents will share and ensure they understand that school's policy for Remote Learning that is on the Learning Wall:
https://files.schudio.com/balshaws/files/Student_Remote_Learning_-_Student-Parent_Guidance.pdf

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

- Class teachers are recording student attendance in live lessons and checking engagement with online learning.
- All staff update our engagement tracker daily and this is monitored by senior leaders and the attendance team.
- Where a student has not been engaging with learning, parents will be sent an email to check if there is any reason for a pupil not engaging.
- If a student continues not to engage in learning then a call will be made to parents and a home visit may also be made
- If a student still does not engage with learning, they will be considered a vulnerable student and provided with a place in school as part of our provision for key worker and vulnerable students.

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:

Methods of Assessment

There are a range of ways in which pupils will be assessed:

- Formative assessment based upon the quality of their interaction through questions and answers in live lessons
- Assessment through online quizzes and tests
- Assessment of written feedback provided via email and our remote learning platform

Assessment feedback

- Feedback from online tests and quizzes (GCSEPod, Quizlet, Cahoot, Forms etc.) is immediate.
- Feedback will be given to the whole class about the strengths and weaknesses of the group in relation to the learning undertaken either on a weekly basis or at the end of key learning topics.
- Individual feedback will be given in response to submitted assignments.
- Tracking reports will continue to be sent home to parents.
- Parents evenings will take place using an online Parents' Evening platform.

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:

As in the first lockdown, all children who have identified SEND have been offered a place as part of our key worker / vulnerable student supervision:

- It is recognised that this may not be required by many of our SEND students on a daily basis.
- There are at least weekly check-ins and support calls from either the SENDCO or a member of the Teaching Assistant team to see if any additional support is needed and to check on well-being.

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?

As we have done throughout the pandemic, we will continue to make the learning for those self-isolating mirror the content of that which is being studied in school. It is likely to be adapted to be able to be completed using digital resources such as PowerPoints and worksheets rather than a live lesson. However, it is probable that we will increase the transmission of a live lesson from the classroom for those isolating at the point at which school fully re-opens.