

PENWORTHAM PRIORY ACADEMY

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?

We will provide a menu of activities for pupils to choose from and encourage them to complete an activity for English, Maths and Science and then two other subjects of their choice. This will be available on Microsoft Teams and for those without access for any reason, a printed copy of the activities will be available from the school office.

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 may need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, pupils studying computer programming may not be able to do so from home, some PSHE content may be more suited to teaching in school due to its sensitive nature.

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 (Years 7, 8 and 9)	5 – 6 hours
Key Stage 4 (years 10 and 11)	6 – 6 ½ hours

Accessing remote education

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

We will use Microsoft Teams and supplement this with online resources such as Accelerated Reader, BBC Bitesize, MathsWatch, Pinpoint Learning, department Pinterest boards, Seneca, department YouTube channels, GCSEPod, online coursework books, This is Language.

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:

- We have a small supply of laptops that we can lend to pupils. These are allocated according to an assessment of needs. To enquire about these, please contact Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Cowell, l.cowell@priory.lancs.sch.uk or Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Crank, d.crank@priory.lancs.sch.uk or ring the school office on 01772 320250 and ask to speak to one of them
- We can also lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example a dongle). Again, contact Mrs Cowell or Mrs Crank
- If you cannot secure any online access, we provide paper packs of work for pupils. A new one can be collected from the school reception each Monday
- Work done on paper can be handed in at reception for feedback from teachers. Alternatively, a photograph of the work can be attached to a Teams chat with a teacher – many pupils can access this function through Microsoft Teams on their phones

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons) as much as possible during a full national lockdown or in the event of a bubble being sent home
- recordings of live lessons to re-watch / watch at a later time
- Microsoft Teams assignments set by the teachers that align to the lessons being taught
- pre-recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings / voiceover PowerPoints 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

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?

- In the case of a full national lockdown or bubble closure, where your child can access Microsoft Teams without issue, we expect them to follow their timetable and log onto Teams at the beginning of each lesson. They must then join the live lesson and participate in the activities. If no live lesson is available (please remember that their teacher may be ill for example), they must access and complete the assignment set for that lesson
- We ask parents to support their child by ensuring they have a dedicated workspace where possible. Please report any issues with work or access to individual teachers and/or the head of year by phoning the school office or sending an email. We ask that you ensure your child adheres to the guidance and policies about remote learning that we will communicate in writing via email and on our website

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

- Attendance is monitored daily e.g. in a national lockdown or bubble closure, a register will be taken for each live lesson
- Absence is followed up by phone. We ask that you let us know if your child will miss any remote learning. Please contact the school reception to do this on 01772 320250
- Teachers will use teaching strategies in lessons to check on levels of engagement. They may contact a child or parent individually if they have concerns
- If we are concerned about your child's engagement in several subjects, heads of year or pastoral managers will contact you to offer support

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:

- Teachers may use the Microsoft Teams chat function to give feedback on work that is sent to them this way. They may use self-marking Microsoft Forms and give feedback to individuals on their performance. They may make 1:1 voice or video calls via Microsoft Teams to support a pupil and may send whole class feedback in the 'General' section of a class Team.
- Pupils will receive feedback on their work as appropriate to the assignments set and this will be done in a timely fashion.

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:

- Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities will be assigned a 'key worker' from within the learning support department. This named person will keep in contact on a weekly to daily basis with the child (and family where appropriate) as required
- Pupils are offered a place in school where necessary and will be supported in their learning
- TAs who would normally support pupils in school, will join live lessons where possible so that they are better informed of the content and able to help pupils as appropriate
- If your child is struggling to fully engage in live lessons, supplementary support packs are provided
- For any support with SEND pupils, please contact Mrs A Holland, SENCO, on a.holland@priory.lancs.sch.uk

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?

- To ensure individual pupils self-isolating are taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects, if the pupil is able to access Microsoft Teams, they will still be able to access and complete the same assignments as the rest of their class and can communicate with the teachers using the chat function. Where they don't have computer access, heads of year will collate work and send to the parent via email or create a paper pack for collection.
- If work is submitted online, they will receive feedback in the same ways as outlined above. If handed in on paper, it will be reviewed on their return to school.