# Remote education provision: information for parents

*Please note that the full detail of our provision is provided in our remote learning policy* [*on the website*](https://www.waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk/curriculum/remote-learning)*.*

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?

All students can access all the resources for all their lessons on Teams. All staff put the resources on Teams before each lesson – the video which shows how to access the work is [here](https://www.waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk/curriculum/remote-learning). Should a whole year group be sent home, but the school remain open, then teachers will teach remotely following the normal timetable –they will log on, send a message to their group through Teams and provide appropriate resources.

### 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, practical activities in subjects such as Technology and Science cannot be carried out remotely.

## 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 same number of hours as it would in school – ie 5 hours plus homework.

## Accessing remote education

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

Access is through Office 365 – the link is on the homepage of the school website. In particular Microsoft Teams (part of Office 365) and Outlook (part of 365) are used for remote learning.

### 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 individual online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

* Microsoft Teams is used because it is accessible on any internet-enabled device - laptop, tablet, games console, phone, smart TV..... The school's use of Microsoft Office 365 means that all documents can be accessed on any device without the need for specialist software.
* All work for all lessons is posted on Teams (the [video showing how to access it is here](https://www.waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk/curriculum/remote-learning)) so that, if a student cannot access the lesson at the correct time (for example because of sharing access with a parent or sibling) all the resources are available for them.
* Almost all work can be completed in exercise books or on paper. The lesson can be followed on a phone, obtaining help from the teacher through the chat facility on the Teams app for example, and the work completed in the relevant exercise book.
* If ICT support is needed please contact ICTSupport@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk. If your child will not be able to access their work by any means then please email head@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk to discuss possible options.

### How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Students are taught remotely through the use of Microsoft Teams which provides access to resources as well as access to teacher support and some live lessons. Students will be directed to other websites and resources through Teams and email as appropriate. Resources are available for all lessons on Teams. Classcharts is used to signpost homework with links to resources.

## 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 recognise that parents and carers have an important role to play in motivating young people to work. If they are working from home please encourage them to follow their normal timetable, logging onto Teams at the appropriate time and picking up resources and messages from their teachers. Please encourage them to ask for help as needed and to submit any work as requested. Please check Classcharts so that you can see the homework that has been set. Should you need any assistance with this please email ICTSupport@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk or classcharts@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk as appropriate.

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

During a period of remote education we will check student engagement on a daily basis and email or ring home to discuss this with you.

### 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:

* Using the “Comments” function on online documents through Teams
* Sending a direct email to students with specific feedback / targets
* Feedback via another website / piece of software (e.g. OneNote, SenecaLearning, HegartyMaths, Doddle)
* Providing whole class feedback
* Additional functionality is available in Teams, if teachers want to create assignments for students to complete. These might include, for example, the creation of a tailor-made quiz (containing either multiple choice or extended answers) and teachers are able to use assignments to give feedback within Teams.

## 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:

The individual support given to our students with SEND through the mentoring system is the cornerstone of our approach to supporting them and their families with the challenges of accessing remote education. This has worked well throughout the pandemic so far – close communication with each child and family is vital.

## 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?

The only difference is that the student will not have live access to the teacher as the teacher will be engaged with the class that is in front of them. Other than that all resources are available on Teams as previously described and the teacher will respond to message from self-isolating students within a reasonable timescale.