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?

In order to deliver a swift response to a need of self-isolation it is likely that the student or students will be sent home with paper copies of work required for completion. Over this time the online provision will be prepared. After no longer than two days online live lessons will begin.

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.

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	We will provide 5 hours of online learning per day

Accessing remote education

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

Our online learning platform will be accessed through Microsoft Teams. All students have log in details and have been coached on using it.

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:

For students unable to access a digital device we will provide a laptop for the duration of isolation. To access this please contact reception (admin@whitelandsacademy.org). We are also able to provide support for WIFI, again please contact reception to access this support.

If you child is using paper/book resources these will be available at reception

All online assignments will be submitted through Teams. If work is on paper and requires submission this will be done through scanning and emailing or dropping off to reception.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

We use the following approaches to online learning:

- live teaching (online lessons)

- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

- long-term project work and/or internet research activities (as per the schools full opening guidance, schools full opening guidance, schools are expected to avoid an over-reliance on these approaches)

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 expect all students to be present in all online lessons and attend form daily. To support this at home parents can provide a routine or reminders for when lessons are starting

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

We will be checking engagement through registers in each lesson, the answers to questions on the chat group function, answering question in Forms and submission of work in assignments.

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:

Students will get instant feedback in each lesson through quizzes in Microsoft Forms. All assignments will be given feedback as well.

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:

Students with SEND will be supported through bespoke package delivered by our teaching assistants. There will be small group English and Maths support. SEND students will also be supported through regular contact with pastoral leads during this time.

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?

Whether your child is in self-isolation or the school in a period of remote learning our approach will differ to that outlines above.