

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 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?

In the first instance, work will be provided via Google Classroom for students to complete independently, until a remote learning timetable has been confirmed. This will be shared with parents/guardians and other stakeholders as soon as possible.

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. Maths have changed the order of some topics, simply by postponing technical drawing until they can provide students with face to face support. Otherwise all subjects are being delivered to all students.

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: 5 hours of remote learning, including set independent activities.

Accessing remote education

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

All remote learning can be accessed through Google Classroom. All students have been provided with a Google log in which allows them to access all apps provided by G-Suite for education. Live lessons are delivered via Meet, and links to each lesson will be provided in that subject's Google Classroom.

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:

Students that have difficulty accessing online learning from home are invited to either borrow one of the Chromebooks that have been made available to the school, or come in to access their lessons from a school computer. The SEND and pastoral teams have made contact with any families where we knew this to be the case.

The school is monitoring lesson attendance, and the pastoral team are then making contact with the families of students who have not engaged to find out if this is due to lack of access and offer support.

If you are struggling with online access and have not yet been made contact with please email nharvey@Ins.org.uk.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Primarily live lessons are delivered by the classroom teacher via Google Meet

Independent activities set and monitored by the classroom teacher, using education software such as Mathswatch, Memrise, The Everlearner and GCSEPod.

For every timetabled lesson there will be virtual contact between staff and students.

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?

Students will need to engage with every online lesson, and complete all tasks that have been set for them on Google Classroom.

Students should ensure they are logged in before the start of each lesson, and be prepared for written work with either pen and paper, or online documents. Parental support with this is greatly appreciated.

Parents can support by ensuring your child has access to an electronic device and a space to work.

Direct communication between class teachers and parents is the quickest way to answer questions or resolve any issues

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

An electronic register will be taken every time your child logs into a Google Meet. Their attendance is collated centrally and the Pastoral team review this information at the end of every day. If students have had poor or no engagement a member of pastoral staff will then contact home the following day to inform parents and offer support.

Guardian summaries are regularly emailed out by Google Classroom, providing an outline of the work that has been set for your child. If you don't receive these please contact your child's form tutor so your email address can be added to the system.

If pieces of work are incomplete, or equally if students have excelled at a particularly task, teachers will contact parents directly to keep them informed.

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:

Formative assessment is built in to every lesson. This allows teachers to gauge students' short term understanding, and can take many different forms; targeted questioning verbally or via the chat function; Google quizzes; whole class feedback; answers provided for self-assessment, etc.

Longer written work (such as vocational assignments) will be provided with more detailed written feedback.

Verbal feedback is encouraged from staff wherever possible.

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 school SENCO has enabled her team to make contact with the families of all SEN students, inviting students to work from school and offering support to those remaining at home. LSAs are checking in with the most vulnerable families regularly, and are ready to support any changes in circumstance.

For some students, paper based activities have been posted home, allowing them to stay up to date with the curriculum without having to use a screen.

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?

If a student needs to self-isolate while the rest of their peer group is receiving face to face lessons in school, they will be able to access their lessons via their Google Classroom. Lesson slides are uploaded by teachers on a daily (or in some instances weekly) basis. The live classroom lessons are not recorded, but students are encouraged to contact their teachers with any questions after working through the lesson slides.

Independent work is communicated via Google Classroom so all students working from home will also be able to access their homework.