

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students 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 students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

A student'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 students being sent home?

In the event that an entire cohort has to remain at home, students will be set work for each subject in their Google Classroom and they will be expected to submit work via that platform too.

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 will need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in practical based subjects it may well be that the focus of remote education has to be on the more theory-heavy topics. Heads of Department will adapt the curriculum where necessary to ensure that the most appropriate topics are taught during any periods of remote learning.

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 students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Secondary school-aged students not working towards formal qualifications this year	Work will be set for all of the 5 subjects that a student normally has on their timetable for the day. This should take 5 hours in total. There may also be assemblies and extended learning (homework) to add to this.
Secondary school-aged students working towards formal qualifications this year	Work will be set for all of the 5 subjects that a student normally has on their timetable for the day. This should take approximately 5 hours a day. There may also be assemblies and extended learning (homework and revision) to add to this.

Accessing remote education

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

We use Google Classroom and Google Meet online platforms. Google Meet is used for any 'live' online sections of lessons and work is shared via Google Classroom. Students are expected to submit work via Google Classroom and they also receive feedback via the same platform. Some post-16 students also access online lessons via Microsoft Teams.

Other key links will be (amongst others): Oak National Academy, GCSEPod, Seneca Learning, Invicta Academy.

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 students may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:

- We have a small number of laptops, as well as devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles) which have been provided by the government to lend to vulnerable families who are in receipt of free school meals and who do not have IT provision at home. We are proactive in terms of contacting families who we think may need access to this provision, but you can also contact Miss Silverwood (Pupil Premium Champion) if you want to enquire about this provision. Her e-mail is: L.silverwood@brighthouse.calderdale.sch.uk
- Students can access Google Classroom via their Xbox or PS4. Where necessary we can lend out a keyboard that will plug into either of these devices.
- Students who do not have online access will be provided with printed materials. You should contact the child's Head of Year to request this.
- If they do not have online access, students can submit work by post or via the main office.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Synchronous and asynchronous teaching as part of online lessons: Wherever possible and educationally valuable, we use an element of either live instruction and interaction via Google Meet or pre-recorded teaching supplemented with the live comment facility on Google Classroom to provide live instructions, support and feedback. The 'live' element of the lesson will most often be pre-recorded to enable pausing and replay, following research published by the Education Endowment Fund, which concluded that the pre-recorded (asynchronous) teaching, can be more effective than live (synchronous) teaching; but what really matters most is the quality of the teaching rather than how the lessons are delivered. Please find the link to this research here:

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/best-evidence-on-supporting-students-to-learn-remotely/>

- Despite following the results of this research, we do expect that teaching staff will make some use of Google Meet to develop their contact with classes as we move forward as we believe that speaking to classes live will often be beneficial. Therefore, lessons may involve some live teaching activities in the Google Classroom, via Google Meet. Even in lessons without live verbal interaction, all teaching staff will be online and in the 'classroom' at the appointed times, in order to answer questions and develop understanding.
- The 'live' and pre-recorded teaching is supplemented with assignments and tasks shared via Google Classroom. Students are asked to submit work via that same platform, so that teachers can then provide appropriate feedback. We are aware that some students are unable to access 'live' teaching because of restricted access to facilities at home, but by using pre-recorded explanations and Google Classroom all students with any IT access can access the learning.
- Recorded teaching from a third party. This can take the form of content created on another site (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, or Invicta National Academy) to which students might be directed.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas. For example, Key Stage 4 students are strongly encouraged to access material on GCSE Pod and Seneca Learning.
- Work set from textbooks and booklets (either paper versions or electronic copies) to which students have access at home.

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 that all students will engage with remote education. For the majority of students that will mean engaging fully with live lessons, as well as work set on Google Classroom. We expect students to engage with every lesson on their timetable, every day of the week. This timetable mirrors the school day. In order for parents/carers to support their children at home, information is available on our website and has been sent to parents in a letter detailing remote learning provision and support for each year group. For those without the facilities to access live lessons at home, we still expect them to engage fully with all work set on Google Classroom, or paper-based work that has been posted out.

We ask you as parents and carers to ensure that your child is engaging in remote education and to contact us at school if you have any concerns or need support. By setting clear routines and expectations for completing school work, you can support your child's education and help us to ensure that your child fulfils their potential.

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

- We will check that students are engaging with their work by looking at and providing feedback on the work that they submit via Google Classroom or by marking the work that they return by post.
- Engagement with remote learning will also be logged weekly, by teachers. If students are not engaging with remote learning, then we will contact parents / carers by phone or e-mail to let them know and to discuss how any issues can be resolved.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Feedback can take many forms and our students will receive a variety of forms of feedback on work that they submit, including:

- A numerical score for a piece of work
- A brief or extended written comment
- Targets for improvement
- Whole class feedback
- Quizzes marked automatically via the digital platform
- An individual comment on Google Classroom or via e-mail
- Verbal or written feedback during a live discussion

On other occasions, students might be asked to look at a mark scheme, so as to identify their own errors, strengths and areas for improvement.

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 students, for example those 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 students as best we can. We will keep in regular contact with families to provide whatever support we can. Where appropriate, we will ensure that vulnerable students are provided with support in school within our key worker / vulnerable cohort.

Remote education for self-isolating students

Where individual students need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, how remote education is provided will differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching students 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?

Students in Key Stage 3 should follow the links to work for their year group via the Covid-19 learning button on the website. Work is organised into two week periods so that students can continue to follow a planned and well-sequenced curriculum. In some subjects work will be shared via Google Classroom, but that will be made clear on the website. During any period of isolation students should continue to check their Google Classrooms regularly, so that they keep up to date with home learning that has been set for the whole class.

Students in Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 will be set work for each subject in their Google Classroom and they will be expected to submit work via that platform too. This work mirrors the lessons that are being taught to students in school and so there is no break in the continuity of the ambitious and well-sequenced curriculum. Feedback on work submitted will be provided via Google Classroom.

If students need further support or clarification, they can send a message to their teacher via Google Classroom or e-mail.