



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

Remote Learning Policy

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?

All work will be set through the students' Google classroom. This can be accessed by logging on to the school website www.winstanleyschool.org.uk. Where possible, a student will be invited to join a lesson remotely via a Google meet invitation. This will be the case for all lessons if a whole year group has been sent home or during partial school closure (e.g. lockdown).

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. Our staff have made every effort in moving the physical curriculum to the virtual realm so your child will get the same high quality provision regardless of whether they are in school or not.

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:

In the event of school closure, all students will receive 5 x 50 minute Google Meet lessons per day as per their normal school timetable (allowing 10 minutes to hand in work and move to the next Google meet). Enrichment and Intervention classes will not have a Google Meet lesson as this time has been given over to the students to complete other work.

Accessing remote education

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

All work will be set through the students Google classroom. This can be accessed by logging on to the school website www.winstanleyschool.org.uk. Where possible, a student will be invited to join a lesson remotely via a Google meet invitation. This will be the case for all lessons if a whole year group has been sent home or during partial school closure (e.g. lockdown). If a teacher is unwell, then there won't be a live Google meet but work will be set for the students to complete at home.

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:

If your child does not have access to a device or internet connectivity, please contact the school as soon as possible by telephone or email (covidhelpdesk@winstanleyschool.org.uk). A member of staff will be in touch to help alleviate these concerns through lending of chromebooks, laptops and/or WiFi dongles. In the interim, if you still require paper resources until the digital issues are resolved, please contact your child's head of year.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

During partial school closure (i.e. lockdown), all students will have a Google Meet live lesson for each of their timetabled lessons (apart from KS3 Enrichment and Intervention groups). Teachers will then use a variety of activities as they would do in a normal classroom environment. There is a 10-minute window at the end of each lesson to allow students time to hand in work to their Google classrooms and transition to the next Google meet lesson.

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?

Student expectations:

1. Check your emails at 8.30am to see what live lessons you have for the day. There will be a live lesson for every timetabled lesson you have. Enrichment groups and Intervention classes will not have a live Google meet or work set as these lessons have been given over to you to complete work for other subjects) and you must attend all of them. If you cannot find the link in your Google classroom, please contact your teacher at the start of the lesson by email or via the Google classroom and they will share it with you.
2. Join the Google Meet at the correct time (see timings below) and ensure microphone and camera are off until your teacher says so. Teachers are taking registers so we can monitor who is attending the lessons and we will contact home to offer support if somebody is consistently not attending virtual lessons.

Timings of the day:

Period 1 - 8.40am to 9.30am

Period 2 - 9.40am to 10.30am

Tutor Time and Break - There will not be a Google meet every day but there will be some activities set by your tutors and virtual assemblies that you will need to attend.

Period 3 - 11.20am to 12.10pm

Lunch - 12.10pm to 1.00pm (**Note that this is early lunch for all year groups as we don't need to stagger them when you are at home**)

Period 4 - 1.00pm to 1.50pm

Period 5 - 2.00pm to 2.50pm

3. Ensure you have found a quiet place to watch each lesson where there are no distractions and are dressed appropriately to work.
4. Be sure to take an active part in the lesson either by using the chat function or using the camera and microphone when the teacher asks. Do not record the lesson as your teacher will be doing this and will share it with you if required.
5. Hand in work you have completed during the lesson to the Google classroom after each lesson and click on 'Mark as done'. Your lessons are 10 minutes shorter than usual so there is plenty of time to do this.

Parental Support

Ensure they follow their regular lesson timetable, and adhere to the expectations set out above, as rigorously as possible. If there are any technical issues, or they are struggling to find the work, please email your child's teacher, Head of Year or the Main Office (office@winstanleyschool.org.uk) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

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

All work that is completed remotely (i.e. at home) will be uploaded to the Google classroom for their individual teachers to check. Their teacher may be in touch if there is persistent non-submission of work. During school closure, student's attendance at their Google meets will also be monitored and a member of staff will be in touch if there is a sequence of lessons they have not attended.

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 will use a range of feedback strategies to inform your child of how they are progressing. For example, assignments on Seneca or Quizizz may be set that give immediate feedback on their performance. Teachers will also provide feedback on certain work in accordance with each department's policy. Where possible students will be assessed in the virtual classroom as they would be in the physical classroom, and teachers will be provided with high quality next steps feedback on how to improve their work.

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:

Learning Support Assistants (LSAs) will attend the same Google meet lessons as the children they supported in normal school time. To provide that bespoke one-to-one support, LSAs will be able to set up an individual Google meets during each lesson so the students are better able to access the work. The SEND department are making keep in touch phone calls home on a weekly basis to those students who need it. Where a student is struggling with aspects of remote learning (e.g. using Google docs), alternative resources will be provided so they can still access and engage with the work.

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 your child is self-isolating whilst school is open, they will be set work for each timetabled lesson on every day and be sent a Google meet link, so they can attend the lesson virtually, where possible. If a live lesson is not possible, they will be set high quality, engaging work through their individual Google classrooms where they will be able to ask questions through the stream function to their teachers.