

Specialist school remote education provision: information for parent carers

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if individual pupils or class group bubbles are self-isolating, or if your child/ young person has an agreed Leave of Absence due to parental concerns of health and safety regarding the transmission of Covid-19 during the period of National Lockdown.

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 line with our Covid risk assessment, class bubbles may be asked to isolate at any time of the day. We will always notify parent carers promptly. In the first instance, your class teacher/ Department Lead/ designated member of staff will follow up with you either by phone or email you details of a Zoom meeting as soon as practicably possible in the morning or afternoon following the closure of the bubble. The type of support, resources and learning will be determined and explained in this initial contact which will be dependent on the department that your child/ young person is in. Due to the age range and diversity of SEND needs that Severndale caters for, the offer of distance learning and support reflects the needs of the cohort and also considers the specific needs of the family to enable maximum daily engagement and support for the pupil whilst at home.

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 may need to make some adaptations in some aspects of learning. For example, where the focus of learning requires specialist equipment, expertise, or resources, such as floor space during a physical development session to practise physiotherapist plans. We will work with families and partner specialists to find mutually acceptable alternative solutions.

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 – we understand that most of our pupils will require support from you/ other family members, therefore we accept that any suggest timetable or remote learning plan may not follow suggested timeframes, or set times of the day as your child/ young person may require behavioral, physical, or medical support as well as education support. Therefore, please use the expectations below as guidance to use within your personal situation at home:

Pre-formal department and EYFS	Approximately 3 hours per day
Semi- formal department and 6 th Form	Approximately 3 – 4 hours per day
Formal department, Severndale@Mary Webb, and Futures	Approximately 3 – 5 hours per day

Accessing remote education

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

Some of our remote learning plans will suggest the use of:

- online resources such as BBC Bitesize
- YouTube videos such as content from our own Severndale YouTube where there are approximately 200 videos made by our staff, specifically for our pupils - <https://www.youtube.com/c/SeverndaleYouTube/videos>
- Specialist lessons available on the Oak National Academy website – 6 of our teachers presented, with support from a team of Severndale staff, produced a series of high quality lessons for this platform - <https://classroom.thenational.academy/specialist>
- There is an expectation for all pupils to engage in twice, daily, wellbeing Zoom meetings with school staff. This may be with the class group, or individually. If for any reason Zoom sessions cannot be accessed, doorstep visits to the child/ young person's home will be undertaken at least once a week by a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Education Welfare Officer, or a member of the Learning Community Trust welfare team.

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/ young person does not have access to appropriate equipment such as a tablet or a laptop, or sufficient online access, please call the school office to make contact with Louise Tilley, PA, or email: louise.tilley@severndaleacademy.co.uk

- We will issue or lend laptops or tablets to pupils to those who need these
- We will issue or lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles)
- Pupils and their families can access any printed materials needed if they do not have online access – please call or email your child/ young person's teacher or Department Lead
- Pupils can submit work to their teachers if they do not have online access – this should be agreed with your child/ young person's teacher.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live teaching (online Zoom sessions)
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have taken/ been sent home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- long-term project work
- Support Plans as instructed by other professionals such as Speech and Language Therapy (SALT), Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy (OT)

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?

- Expectations for pupils' engagement with remote education – we understand and accept that it may be extremely challenging for your child/ young person to follow a timetable while at home due to their specific SEND needs, however we expect that any challenges and progress made are readily shared in the daily wellbeing Zoom meetings so that the teacher can work with parent carers to further personalise the approaches used to develop and maximise engagement.
- Expectations of parental support - setting routines to support your child's education, encourage positive sleep patterns, ensure that your child/ young person is always appropriately supervised, and that your child/ young person is well supported and has access to suggested learning activities in line with shared weekly plans from your child's teacher.