



## 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 where national or 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 page.

## 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?

Should your child be sent home to self-isolate (or because of a national lockdown), they will be provided with the following:

- A link to our virtual learning environment (VLE), Moodle, where lessons will be set for the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, Languages, WEB
- Their Tassomai daily goals in Science
- Their Sparx homework, including optional and target.

## 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?

Please see below some statements that may be helpful. In this section, please delete all statements that do not apply, and add details if appropriate:

- 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 such as core PE which has a reduced curriculum time and is delivered via pre-corded videos.
- Our remote curriculum is a blend of live (synchronous) sessions and pre-recorded (asynchronous) sessions. This blended approach allows for high quality curriculum planning, together with live interaction and feedback.

## 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:

<p>Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year</p>	<p>All students will begin their day with a live tutorial session. This will be followed by five curriculum hours. Typically, two hours will be taught with live elements, and three will be asynchronous with a range of prepared resources. We have also allowed specific time for our West Exe Literary Canon, with a reading session included daily. This session ensures that students will continue to develop their thoughts and ideas around socially and culturally significant issues.</p>
<p>Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year</p>	<p>All students will begin their day with a live tutorial session. This will be followed by five curriculum hours. Typically, two hours will be taught with live elements, and three will be asynchronous with a range of prepared resources. We have also allowed specific time for our West Exe Literary Canon, with a reading session included daily. This session ensures that students will continue to develop their thoughts and ideas around socially and culturally significant issues.</p> <p>Additionally, these students will continue to receive careers education and advice, together with virtual 1:1 appointments with a careers advisor. Some will receive additional intervention from tutors in Maths and the Humanities.</p>

## Accessing remote education

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

Students will access the majority of their asynchronous sessions via Moodle. Links to Sparx and Tassomai are also provided via this platform, although students can also access them via the apps on their phones or other devices,

All live sessions are delivered via Microsoft Teams, which students can access through their Teams calendar or via an email from their teacher.

### 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:

From our system of pastoral support during the first lockdown, our IT and pastoral teams had a spreadsheet of all the students in years 8-11 who had access issues or needed devices to access our home learning offer. In the autumn term, we surveyed our year 7 students through their tutor times to ascertain whether they had suitable devices to access our home learning platform. As well as this, in the first week of online learning, tutors made daily phone calls home to students and their parents in order to proactively address any access issues and offer devices where necessary. Over 75 Chromebooks have been made available for collection from main reception (from 8-5pm). Where parents/carers were unable to collect, we were able to deliver devices to households. We have a comprehensive system in place for tracking engagement in remote learning. If and when students were not engaged our online platforms, heads of year, supported by the tutor team have been able to intervene quickly and offer devices if necessary.

Where internet connectivity has been an issue, we have issued Vodaphone data Sim cards and dongles and an accompanying leaflet. We have also asked parents/carers to make us aware if they are having connection issues. Our system of monitoring home learning engagement rates and head of year or tutor calls has also meant we are able to identify further connectivity issues and intervene if necessary.

We also have a comprehensive plan in place to intervene in cases where students are failing to engage in their remote learning. If we have exhausted all avenues for support and engagement, we have invited students into school to join our Essential School provision.

## How will my child be taught remotely?

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

We have selected a blended approach of live and pre-sessions lessons for teaching remotely. Where a lesson has live content, teachers will live stream via Microsoft Teams. Attendance will be recorded through access to Teams for these sessions.

Within subjects, a teacher may choose to deliver one live session followed by two knowledge based, consolidation sessions which have been pre-recorded. These pre-recorded sessions will include voice overs or Loom style videos where teachers speak directly with pupils. Alternatively, where content can be delivered pre-recorded, teachers may offer Q&A sessions for their classes.

Pupils are encouraged to contact their teachers via email to ask subject specific questions.

We also provide:

- Printed knowledge books containing the core knowledge required for each cycle of work
- reading books students have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

## 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 engagement:

- we expect students to fully engage with home learning.
- should students not engage, we will contact parents or carers.
- Should students not attend their morning tutorial, a text message will be sent home to parents shortly after.

Examples of parental support:

- please provide your child with a quiet and calm environment in which to learn
- please let us know if there are any IT/ internet issues and we will aim to resolve them
- please talk to your child about their work and encourage them to use the support mechanisms we have in place if they need help

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

We will monitor attendance of all sessions.

- we will text you or call you when your child has not taken part in one of their live lessons
- should attendance become a repeated issue for your son/ daughter, we will call you to discuss and offer support

### 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 student work is as follows:

To assess students and give feedback, we will:

- use online quizzes to check understanding
- ask questions in the live lesson
- give written feedback, where appropriate and supportive
- use phone calls to give you feedback on how well your child is performing

By February half-term, we will be sending weekly engagement emails to parents, where we will report on the following:

- Attendance to tutor sessions, as this gives a clear indication to levels of engagement
- Moodle engagement rates
- Sparx completion rates
- Tassomai completion rates

## **Additional support for students 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 some students 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 in the following ways:

- We offer places in Essential School where each class bubble is supported by two teaching assistants
- Our Lexia team continue to support students who are receiving support with reading and literacy, with the programme continuing online during this period
- Our key workers call home every week to offer support and talk through the week ahead
- Pre-recorded lessons offer an opportunity for students to learn at their own pace, stopping lessons where they need to pause and process, before moving on when they are ready. This style of remote learning also allows the students to replay key areas should they need to.

## **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 likely 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?**

- where possible/ appropriate, students will join the lesson online and take part in the lesson as much as possible as other students
- where this isn't possible, alternative work will be provided that follows the normal curriculum plan
- work for all subjects will be provided