



William Brookes School

Remote Education Provision Policy

January 2021



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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 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?

In the first day or two of pupils being sent home they will be able to access their learning via the posts area of the class teams in Microsoft Teams.

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 have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example,

- The areas where we are different are the practical subjects such as PE, Drama, Dance, Music and DT where related work may be set if possible due to the need to access specialist equipment and teaching.
- Some aspects of the curriculum that are difficult to deliver remotely e.g. practical experiments in science, topics in subjects such as RE, PSHE or History that need significant teacher guidance and context.

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	5 hours
Secondary school-aged students working towards formal qualifications this year	5 hours

Accessing remote education

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

Your child will be able to access their remote education via Microsoft Teams, this is best accessed via Google Chrome and navigating to <https://teams.microsoft.com/>

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:

Earlier in the academic year we contacted all students to discover which students did not have access to remote education. All students that responded have now been provided with a laptop and/or a 3G dongle on loan for the remainder of this academic year.

If you are unable to access the online curriculum please contact school via email (admin@williambrookes.com) and we will endeavour to support your child. While you are without access school will provide printed copies of resources for you to collect.

You can e mail school and we will get a member of our ICT or pastoral support team if you are experiencing problems with our platform.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

As a school we will use a combination of the following remote teaching approaches:

- Staff are working in school on a rotation and when in school, live lessons will not be possible but other strategies described below will be posted to students on Teams
- live teaching (online lessons via Teams Meetings). All lessons at KS4 & KS5 will delivered live when possible.
- recorded teaching, voice over Power Points will be made available via Teams
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences, these include Seneca, Oak Academy, Memrise, Linguscope and EverLearner. Students have their own accounts on these websites.

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 are expected to attend live lessons as per their normal timetable, these lessons will not necessarily last the full 1hr and students will be expected to participate in independent learning tasks. A typical lesson will consist of a live introduction by the teacher, time for students to work on tasks provided by the teacher, a midpoint check in with further time for students to work independently followed up by a plenary session at the end of the lesson. Further instructions will be set to complete tasks or check on the learning that has taken place using quizzes or assessments.

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

Registers of attendance are taken for all live lessons and parents will be informed of ongoing concerns with attendance. We are registering attendance at lessons using classcharts. A green dot for attendance is given, whether in school or online, which will make it clear to you of the level of student engagement from a positive perspective. When a student fails to attend frequently or to submit multiple assignments parents will receive contact via Class Charts and then by a member of the pastoral team to provide help / support as needed. House leaders or Senior Leaders may follow up these discussions of non-engagement if improvement is not seen over time.

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:

Pupils work will be assessed via Assignments in Microsoft Teams, this can take the form of two types of assessment:

- Quizzes, these are normally automatically marked and feedback is instant
- Long assignments that will receive more detailed feedback

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:

- Liaising with subject teachers and IT support to ensure the materials are accessible to all students. This includes the dictate software and read / write resources provided to students at home.
- Contact from support staff to assist with tasks set and offer support with wider issues
- Continue with review meetings and assessments of needs as far as we can.

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?

For students in KS3 work will be made available via Teams within 24hrs of the lesson, details of the work can be found in the post section for each of their class teams.

For students in KS4 & KS4 work will be made available prior to the lesson in the post section of each of their class teams. If possible, students will be invited to attend the lesson remotely via a live Teams meeting.

NOTE: The plans and timings of some of our practises could be affected by staff availability at this time of a pandemic. The school will work hard to ensure they maintain the highest possible standards of education for all students during these difficult times.

Feedback

We are keen to receive feedback beyond the series of e mails that have been gratefully received to date. This is to allow us to refine the process and get the learning experience as high quality as possible. We have manoeuvred the school day to ensure that students can have time to experience exercise through family walks or workouts using the online sets provided. We will use our usual forms approach to compile this feedback and a link will follow during the week beginning 18 January 2021.