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 if 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

Students self-isolating and not showing symptoms of Covid-19 should continue to follow their normal daily timetable whilst at home.

Subject teachers will upload the work they are delivering to their classes to their Google Classrooms within 24 hours (not including weekends) of the timetabled lesson.

If students have any problems with the work, they should email their teaching staff or post a private comment in the Google Classroom which, in turn, generates an email to the teacher.

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 will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	Students will complete work in line with their school timetable. Taking into account that some of the lessons would have been practical (e.g. PE), this should amount to 4 to 5 hours each day.
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	As above but we would also anticipate that students are using additional time to access additional revision resources.

Accessing remote education

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

All students will access online remote learning education via the Google Classroom platform.

In addition, students in Key Stage 4 should use our One Stop Shop Website to access additional revision resources.

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 students do not have access to a laptop/Chromebook, please contact the school immediately to let us know.

- We are able to issue or lend laptops/Chromebooks or tablets to students.
- We are able to issue or lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles).

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

In situations where we have individuals or small groups of students self-isolating (i.e. not a whole year group), remote learning provision will mainly consist of some or all of the following:

- Slides from the lesson or short video explanations/links from the internet
- Worksheets or questions from the lessons along with an explanation of the work to be completed
- Exemplar work such as a worked example.
- Assessment and feedback in line with the rest of the group where possible

In instances where a whole year group is self-isolating:

- Subject teachers will upload the work they are setting to their Google Classrooms as described above
- For a proportion of the timetabled lessons over the two week period, good health permitting, teachers will provide Enhanced Remote Learning Support* (see below).
- Teachers will inform students of which timetabled lessons will contain this Enhanced Remote Learning Support. Attendance, by linking into the Google Classroom for that subject, will be expected at these times.

Enhanced Remote Learning Support*
- There will not be a one size fits all model of "live" teaching.
- Teachers will use the normal teaching contact time to ensure that learning is as effective as possible.
- It will ensure students are able to be in touch with their teachers over the course of a ten day period.

A variety of approaches will be used which may include:
- A teacher-led introduction to the tasks to be completed, the resources which will help and the time limit for completion.
- "Live" explanation using Google Meet or pre-recorded lesson commentary
- The teacher is available for students to ask questions during the timetabled lesson.
- Students asked to post work on the Google Classroom to check progress and understanding.
- The teacher provides additional resources to assess learning as the lesson progresses.
- Feedback from the teacher either to individual students or as whole class feedback.

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 are aware that many of you will still be working from home. You are not expected to be the teacher, or to suddenly be an expert in 15 different subjects. Students should be able to access the work set on the Google classroom independently.

We would encourage you to set a routine which centres around the normal school timetable. If students complete the work set within the hour lesson time, they should be encouraged to show additional ambition by delving further into a topic area.

Be supportive and encouraging of the effort your children are putting in, but you don't need to teach them.

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

Teaching staff will complete a form for any student who is not engaging with their work. Parents will be contacted where students are not engaging with their work.

We will aim to contact all students (parents) if they are individually self-isolating for more than 4 days (although this will not be possible in situations where whole year groups are working from home).

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:

The way work is assessed and feedback provided will differ from subject to subject. Where students are individually self-isolating, teachers will aim to provide assessment and feedback in line with the rest of the group where possible.

Where a whole year group is accessing work from home, there may be instances where work can be assessed automatically via digital platforms. Where students are working from home on a rota basis (e.g. two weeks out, two weeks in), the majority of assessment and feedback will take when students are in school.

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:

We aim to make the remote learning provision accessible for all students. However, should students have problems accessing the work they have been set, they should contact their teacher (the easiest way to do this is via a private comment in the relevant Google classroom which in turn will generate an email to the teacher).

If there is a specific need which you feel is not being addressed by the teacher, then please contact our SENCo (v.ward@tgs.starmat.uk).

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?

In situations where we have individuals or small groups of students self-isolating (i.e. not a whole year group), remote learning provision will mainly consist of some or all of the following:

- Slides from the lesson or short video explanations/links from the internet
- Worksheets or questions from the lessons along with an explanation of the work to be completed
- Exemplar work such as a worked example.
- Assessment and feedback in line with the rest of the group where possible

Enhanced remote learning support will not be possible when the majority of students are being taught in school. However, should students have problems accessing the work they have been set, they should contact their teacher (the easiest way to do this is via a private comment in the relevant Google classroom which in turn will generate an email to the teacher).