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

Overall the same curriculum that is taught in school will be taught remotely. The full range of subjects that a child would access in school will be provided remotely. There might be slightly different sequencing of topics from what would happen under normal circumstances so that topics or skills that lend themselves more to remote learning are taught during this period for example in Y8 Maths it is hard to teach 3D shapes, nets and isometric drawing remotely and so this is moved to a later time in the school year and another topic brought forward.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

All work for all years will be set on Microsoft Teams. Students will be added to different teams for each subject and set assignments via Teams. Live lessons will also happen via Microsoft Teams.

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 5 hours per day in KS3 and KS4.

The 5 lessons on each day's timetable will be the work that day. This will be through a mixture of live lessons or work set to complete independently. Students should work for an hour and submit the work, telling the teacher that that is what they have completed in the allotted time in order to help teachers gauge the right amount and challenge of work.

In KS5 work will be set or taught for each timetabled lesson per day. In addition to this there is the ongoing expectation of our 6th form students that they should be working independently and reading around the subjects they study. Consequently we would expect our KS5 students to be working for at least 5 hours a day.

Accessing remote education

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

Each student has their own login to Microsoft Teams. This login is their school email address and password. Their username is the number of the year their cohort started at Heart of England,

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We recognise that not all of our students have access to an appropriate electronic device upon which to complete remote education or that there may be issues with accessing a suitable internet connection.

Electronic Devices

We have been issued a limited number of devices by the DFE and have also purchased some additional devices that we are in a position to lend. As our supplies are limited it is necessary for us to prioritise those students who may have the greatest need of support first, as such we will prioritise need as set out below:

- Looked After Children in any year group
- Vulnerable students – Year 11 and Year 13 students
- Vulnerable students – Year 10 and Year 12 students
- Vulnerable students – Any other year group
- Year 11 and Year 13 students
- Year 10 and Year 12 students
- All other students

Please contact your child's tutor or Progress Leader to discuss access to an electronic device if needed.

Accessing the Internet

As with electronic devices, we have a limited supply of routers / dongles that we can lend to families in order to access the internet. The means of prioritising their distribution will be the same as that outlined for electronic devices

Several network providers (EE, Sky Mobile, Smarty, Tesco Mobile, Three, Virgin Mobile) are making an offer to help increase mobile data allowances for children and young people if:

- They don't have access to a fixed broadband connection
- Cannot afford the additional data needed to access education resources or social care services
- Have access to a mobile device that uses a participating device
- Are facing disruption to their face-to-face education, or have been advised not to attend school

Further information can be found here:

- https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data

If you would like to register an interest in this scheme, please contact:

- office@heart-england.co.uk

asking for further information about the Mobile Data Increase.

If you have further questions or queries, please contact your child's tutor or Progress Leader.

What to do if you have no remote access

If you do not have an appropriate electronic device that can be used (and we are unable to lend one) or you do not have an internet connection (and we are unable to provide a router / dongle) your child's Progress Leader will discuss this with you. We want all students to be able to learn and access some form of remote learning. In this circumstance you and your child's Progress Leader will discuss and agree a schedule for relevant learning resources to be posted out so that your child can continue to engage with learning.

We will also discuss and agree an appropriate schedule for the submission of work for staff to review and (where appropriate) give feedback. For those who live within a reasonable distance of the school, a day and time will be agreed for work to be returned

(circumstances allowing); if the need is more acute we may make arrangements to collect or drop off work in person.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Students should follow their normal timetable throughout the week trying to follow the usual lesson timings. If part of a student's lesson is to be taught live then this will be booked via the class channel in the calendar so the child is aware that there is a scheduled video call to join. In case your child is unable to join live, or wishes to watch the lesson again, these taught segments will be recorded and available to re-watch or view later in the class posts. While each student should expect to receive some live teaching for each subject each week it will not necessarily be a full 60 minutes of teaching but is more likely to be a portion of the lesson before follow on tasks are set much like real lessons in school. As there will be a blend of live teaching and other work the teacher will make it clear to students what is expected of them and when.

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

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g. *Oak National Academy* lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- reference to textbooks and reading books pupils have at home or online access to electronic textbooks such as *Kerboodle*.
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences e.g. *Doddle* and *Mathswatch*

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 would like all students to attend all scheduled live lessons and submit all work set for the 5 lessons each day. We appreciate that every household has their own individual circumstances that could make this impossible regularly or as a one off. Please get in touch with your child's tutor if your child is struggling to keep up or meet the expectations around attendance and work submission. Your child's tutor can then communicate to all relevant staff any context around your child that needs to be understood.

Having a dedicated workspace, a copy of the usual timetable and limited distractions are all tools we encourage the best work environment at home. Doing work in any subject exercise books that are currently at home is also very useful for continuity of learning. For other tips for students and parents about how best to navigate remote learning please see our YouTube channel:

- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsCpah6OXGGTr5ap_S7S_NA

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

Teachers will log daily any instances where students do not attend a scheduled live lesson or submit the requested work. We will look at this information weekly and if there are a number of logs across different subjects your child's tutor will contact you. If there is just a small problem in one subject that subject teacher will contact you.

Where engagement is a concern the tutor or progress leader will discuss different approaches with the parent or carer to discern what the root cause is and therefore what the best way forward is. For students who have technical issues or problems getting to grips with Teams we have member of staff to will get in touch to troubleshoot and increase confidence and competence on the platform.

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:

- Whole class verbal feedback at the start of live lessons highlighting common errors and misconceptions
- Setting similar, repeat exercises following correction in order to check that understanding has improved
- Automatically marked quizzes via digital platforms
- Individual feedback on pieces of work where possible and effective
- Pupils should expect to receive feedback at least fortnightly for subjects with several lessons per cycle but this might be less frequent in subjects which are taught less often.

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:

- knowing the needs of individual students we teach who are on the SEN register
- adapting resources where possible e.g. with audio instructions, spaced out text and headings and simple, brief instructions
- following live lessons asking certain students to stay on Teams so that the teacher can check their understanding away from the whole group.
- regular updates from the SENCo to staff about student need.
- contacting home if there are ongoing problems

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 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?

Your child's progress leader will contact you on the first day of isolation to show you how to access work. For many subjects it will be stored by year group by subject on the L drive and will be work that echoes what the child's peers are studying in school while not being exactly the same. Other subjects will email the child directly to set work.