

The Heathland School 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

Pupils will continue to follow their day to day timetable. As much as is possible subjects and departments will continue to teach and deliver the curriculum as they would have in the classroom. In some cases where this is not possible (as with some practical subjects) appropriate replacement topics and lesson have been planned. Students will be taught by their normal classroom teachers (absence permitting) and they will have live lessons taught through Microsoft Teams

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

Students will be able to participate immediately in remote lessons through accessing MS teams. They will be able to see their subject teams already as these have been used since September. They will also see their live lessons in the MS teams calendar

Any additional communication will come via the school office. This will be a combination of email to parents and to students (using their school email address).

Additionally phone calls may be made in some cases.

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 practical subjects some adjustments have been made to lesson content.

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 students will be present for each of their lessons each day. This consists of 3 double (100 minute) lessons. This is the same amount of time they would be in school.

The times of each year groups day will remain staggered so as to provide adequate time for those students who are in school to arrive safely and with their own bubble.

Additionally students will be set homework in line with the existing expectations around frequency and time dependent on year group.

As has always been the case Key Stage 5 students should supplement their school and homework with sufficient independent study.

Accessing remote education

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

All remote lessons will be provided through Microsoft Teams. All students have a log in for this and each of their classes is a "team". All remote live lessons will be scheduled through the calendar function and additional resources are uploaded to the appropriate area.

Students will be asked to complete both class and homework using MS Teams. The majority of this work will be submitted online using MS teams. This will either be through quizzes, assignments or the notebook function on MS teams.

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:

- The school has received its full allocation of laptops from DfE as well as receiving some repurposed devices from Hounslow Promise. Families have been invited to contact the school if they wish to borrow a device from the school.
- Subject teachers, form tutors and Heads of Year are closely monitoring pupil attendance and engagement in live online lessons as well as tracking homework completion. If work is not completed, contact is made and reasons for non-attendance are explored. If appropriate, families will be offered a device or pupils invited to work in school where numbers permit.
- Our allocation of 4G dongles have been issued although they are very limited in the data they can enable. The school has obtained some BT broadband vouchers and apply for additional 4G on behalf of families where this is an issue.
- Printed material is being sent to families regularly
- Pupils can drop work into school for their teachers by prior arrangement

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 lessons)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils 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?

- Just as with normal school, we need your support to ensure that students attend their lessons.
- Where possible we may sometimes need your support to help children with technical difficulties at your end.
- In terms of supporting students at home we understand there are range of challenges, around space and technology, sharing with siblings. If possible creating a space with your child to regularly access and complete their work will be really helpful.
- In terms of work children should be either working in their exercise books, appropriate paper, or on the computer. This is what will be expected in each lesson they attend.

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

In order to support your child engaging in lessons we will be

- Taking a register every lesson to ensure participation
- Getting students to submit their work online
- Tutors will have regular contact with the members of their tutor group.
- Where there are concerns about engagement we will contact you through, email, text and phone calls just as we do in school

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:

- Students will still receive feedback on a regular basis for both their classwork and homework. The majority of this will be done through the feedback function on MS teams
- Many departments are using online quizzes, from which students get automatic and instant feedback on their level of understanding
- We will continue as best we can to plan and schedule regular assessments and this along with our classroom data will inform the PIPs we send home to you.

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:

- The Learning Support department will be making weekly phone calls to parents
- Teaching assistants are part of MS Teams classes and may call pupils during lessons to support them over the phone in some cases.
- The Learning support department will be providing 1:1 after-school homework or revision support over MS Teams
- Practical resources sent home for some pupils for example laminated number lines for Maths lessons to support students who may need extra help
- Visual timetables sent home for some pupils
- Helpful apps and resources sent home to pupils and parents
- All pupils with an EHCP can come into school if they choose to and will be supported by teaching assistants with their remote learning.

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?

As much as possible, but with individual circumstances taken into account, the provision for students in self-isolation is the same as above. We will take a blended approach to learning where necessary.

Where only a few students are out of lessons remote work will be provided through MS teams or they will be invited to join live lessons by the teacher.