

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.

Details of what to expect where individual students are self-isolating, can also be found in this document.

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 pupils being sent home?

During remote learning, we will be using Microsoft Teams (TEAMS). Teachers will teach the lesson in the usual manner with around 20-30 minutes of input. During the rest of the lesson students will be expected to work independently, using the TEAMS chat function to communicate with their teacher in the usual manner. This is to prevent prolonged screen time and to ensure students continue to develop their independence. The school day will follow the usual school timings. All resources for the lesson will be shared by staff in the post or files of the Team.

If a child is told that they must self-isolate (and therefore work remotely) they will be invited, on TEAMS, to join their usual lesson "live". If this is not possible then the work will be posted in the Team or emailed to the student. Occasionally there may be a delay in this invite being issued, dependent on when teaching staff are informed of the need to self-isolate. This will be dependent on the time of day in which test results are passed to the school and the case load at the time.

The live lesson will be just that, live. If the teacher is at school, or at home isolating, the lesson will take place at the same time that the lesson usually would (if the child was at school). They will be able to hear the teacher and see the screen which is shared. Any documentation required, or video links, will be stored in the files section on TEAMS or shared in the chat function during the lesson. Both the chat and the files are available after the lesson as well as during. If the teacher is unwell, and the lesson is a "cover" lesson, then work will be posted in the Team or via email by another member of staff. Therefore, if a child does not receive an invite to the live lesson then they should check the Team information and their emails.

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 if learning is taking place within the school building. This is the case wherever possible and appropriate. We have however had to make some adaptations in practical subjects; for example, PE, D&T, art and music. Students will have at least one live lesson per week for these subjects, just as they would for any other subject area. However, the content will be adjusted to allow completion of work whilst at home.

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 same number of hours each day as if they were in school.

When most of our students are learning remotely, there will be less homework set, and the independent study work will more likely form part of the lesson itself. Students may be invited to continue to complete tasks in their own time where appropriate. Examination year groups (Years 10 and 11) should expect more of this. Students who are in examination year groups will be encouraged to revise topics independently and some will be offered remote revision sessions.

When students are isolating and most students are in school, they will follow their timetable for the day and will be invited into live lessons where appropriate.

Accessing remote education

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

Our remote learning platform is Microsoft Teams. This is where all live lessons and lesson materials will be provided. This is also where students will be asked to submit the large majority of their work. Other resources will be signposted by teachers during their lessons.

In order to facilitate the transition towards using TEAMS (September 2020 – December 2020) we have also used the schools VLE to share information and resources as well as to provide support. Students have been shown how to access TEAMS lessons and the VLE in IT/Computing lessons.

The exception to this is if a teacher is unwell. If the teacher is unwell and the lesson is a “cover” lesson, then work will be placed on the VLE by another member of staff. Therefore, if a child does not receive an invite to the live lesson then they should check their emails.

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 have a dedicated team standing by to support students and parents with IT issues. This team can be contacted by emailing support@jarrowschool.com. Any smart device (for example, a phone, Xbox or tablet) will be able to access our remote learning provision.

We have issued laptops to students eligible for Pupil Premium funding who are working towards their examinations in the first instance. We are working towards providing laptops, for all other students who do not have access to one.

We do provide dongles with some laptops, however most of our students do have Wi-Fi or suitable internet access. If you, as parents, have concerns regarding Wi-Fi provision please contact the school.

Books, paper and folders are available for collection from school for students who do not work on a laptop/PC/Mac book and where they cannot provide these materials for themselves. Work packs have also been sent out on request.

Through all these approaches, we expect that all students are able to access, complete and submit their work.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of approaches to teach students remotely. All our teaching uses the Microsoft Teams platform. Our VLE is used to store lessons and resources and will also be used to provide some further independent learning where appropriate.

- live teaching for all or part of a lesson (online lessons using Microsoft Teams)
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers, GCSEPod and GCSE Bitesize)
- textbooks, knowledge organisers, revision books and reading books which students have at home or can be sent from school on request.

If a teacher is unwell then students will receive information on remote learning via the Teams post and email.

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 attendance to remote lessons is recorded in a similar manner to those students who are at school. Students are expected to attend lessons and participate using the chat function. Microphones and Cameras must be switched off (unless requested to be turned on by the teacher).

Parents are expected to ensure that students are engaging with the lesson and are taking a break, away from the screen, when they would usually have a break-time or between lessons.

Your child should follow their school timetable. They will need somewhere to work and access to IT. Where this is not available at home, parents/carers must notify the school so we can support where needed.

Your child should have the basic equipment for learning, such as pens and paper. Families who need support to provide these should contact the school.

Parents/carers should encourage their children to let their teachers know when they need extra help, using Teams and ideally in the lesson itself. They can private message teachers if they need to.

Students and parents/carers are encouraged to notify the school if they are struggling in any way.

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

Students are expected to engage in their learning via the chat function on TEAMS. If a concerning pattern of behaviour appears, then parents are contacted by the school.

We are monitoring student engagement in our lessons daily and students are expected to engage in their learning via the chat function on TEAMS. Teachers will encourage students to participate in lessons and access materials on Teams. Attendance to remote learning lessons is regularly checked. Where engagement in a particular subject becomes a concern, we will contact parents/carers directly.

The pastoral team will contact parents/carers when engagement becomes a concern overall, and they will support students to re-engage with their learning.

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:

- Whole class quizzes, written tasks that students submit, responses in lessons through questioning, are all approaches that teachers might use. Teachers use the work students complete, to shape the next lessons. Feedback may be provided to the whole class, where teachers will unpick misconceptions during their lessons.
- Students' understanding will be checked throughout lessons through questioning, as they would be in the classroom.
- For each year group, whilst assessment of learning is ongoing as described above, there will be at least one piece of assessed work across every half term, for which students will receive personal feedback. An exception to this might be lessons that occur only once a week, where more time is required for teaching and learning.

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 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. LSAs work closely with that child where possible to ensure that they are able to access the work. This maybe via a phone conversation, as a guest to TEAMS lessons, or in a breakout room within TEAMS. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers. Our SEN and pastoral teams make regular calls to our parents/carers where appropriate, to support them to access and submit their child's work. Students who cannot engage with online learning, even after staff are informed of difficulties and have adapted work, will be offered support in school. Students in our Post 11 Centre and their families are supported by the Post 11 staff as needed. As above, if home learning is not suitable, then Post 11 Centre students will be offered a place in school.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

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?

In this situation, students will join any live lessons that are organised, and so must follow their timetable. Expectations for the first day of isolation are described at the beginning of this document. All live lessons and lesson materials can be found in Microsoft Teams.