

Altwood Church of England School - Remote education provision: information for parents 2021

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.

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 case of a national lockdown live lessons will commence immediately following student timetables and current school timings of the day.
- All resources will be available in their class Teams to access shortly after the live lesson has taken place alongside a recording of the lesson.
- Should a student be isolating they can access materials from their class Team as stated above and catch up with live lessons via recordings. They will be invited to attend lessons virtually if they are well enough to do so within the first few days. In some cases, this will happen immediately depending on when school is informed of the self-isolation.

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.
- Personal Development Days will go ahead using a mix of live and prepared independent learning alongside use of external agencies to deliver careers education for example.
- Physical Education delivery will of course be adapted to meet the needs of the situation.

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:

Key Stage 3 and 4	5 hours of set school time each day
Key Stage 5	24 hours of lesson time over two weeks (based on 3 subjects)

Homework will be set however, we are mindful of the need to encourage students to have time away from screens and to get out and exercise.

Accessing remote education

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

- Remote learning will be delivered using Microsoft Teams. Students can access this by downloading an app or by accessing through office.com via the web browser.
- Live lessons will be scheduled and delivered according to their timetable.
- Work and resources will be uploaded to the Files section of the class Team and home learning will be set in the Assignments section.

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:

- Digital devices can be loaned through school (subject to availability). Parents are asked to contact the Deputy Head Miss Lynn Brittain lbrittain@altwoodschoo.co.uk to request support including the need for routers.
- The school has engaged with government schemes to support potential needs for increase mobile data. All parents and carers have been emailed regarding this scheme.
- The SEND department are working alongside key students. Our SENDCo and Learning Support Assistants are in contact to support with materials and online learning.
- Parents can contact form tutors and class teachers to ask for support with other materials.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- All work will be delivered and set using Microsoft Teams.
- Teachers will use a blended approach of live lessons with face to face delivery and independent work.
- Students should expect to get involved with lessons answering direct questions, using the hands up function if they want to make a contribution. They should use the chat function of Teams to support their learning. There may also be group work opportunities using break out rooms.
- Subjects use a range of platforms to supplement delivery for example:
Educake (Science)
Hegarty Maths
PiXL apps
Kahoot

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 all their timetabled lessons, including tutor time. If this is not possible the usual systems for reporting absence are still in place.
- Live lessons should not take the whole hour. Staff are aware to be mindful of screen time.
- Please encourage students to get up and move about away from their screens in PE/PSHCE sessions and break times. Students need as quiet a place as possible for their study and should turn off devices not being used for learning to help keep their focus.

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

- Attendance will be monitored daily; the school's Attendance Officer will be in contact if there are any concerns.
- Pastoral staff, appropriate Heads of House and tutors will monitoring attendance at the start of the day and will make contact if they have welfare concerns.
- Individual subject teachers will make contact either via telephone or email to discuss and concerns about engagement.

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:

- Student work for feedback should be uploaded to their Team via Assignments.
- Teachers will give a combination of written or numerical style feedback which can be accessed via the Assignments section. They will also give whole class feedback to cover off main misconceptions and learning points.
- Students may also get instant feedback in lesson time verbally or via Teams Forms/Polls for example.
- The school's assessment, recording and reporting calendar remains as published, unless you are otherwise informed. Reports will continue to be sent home and parents' evenings will continue to take place virtually using the schoolcloud system.

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:

- The SEND team are actively in contact with students under their remit, our SENDCo (Miss Prince) co-ordinates this work.
- Each LSA has nominated students to work with. They will liaise with students and parents to best support their needs.
- LSAs are added to class Teams so that they can support their linked students with the work being undertaken. This may be via email, telephone call or via Teams in a breakout room.
- The SEND department will support with accessing suitable materials. If printed worksheets are needed for example these will be sent home in work packs.
- SEND students are able to take part in online learning in school if this best meets their needs.

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?

- Students who are self-isolating will be able to access their work from their class TEAMS and catch up with live lessons via recordings.
- They will be invited to attend lessons virtually if they are well enough to do so within the first few days. In some cases, this will happen immediately depending on when school is informed of the self-isolation.
- They should expect where possible to follow their timetable for lessons including tutor time. PE sessions will not be possible, and students should take this time to exercise indoors and have time away from screens.