



St George's College
WEYBRIDGE

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

A pupil'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?

In the first few days of remote learning, all pupils are given specific days and timings to come in to collect resources e.g. exercise and text books that they might need throughout the period of lockdown. Guidance and reminders about how to use Teams, how to submit work and safeguarding information for parents about remote learning is sent to pupils and parents. Remote learning will start immediately though, from the first day of lockdown.

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, in particular those where practical work is involved. At KS3 for DT, the project work will be largely theory based; for Food and Nutrition, your child will be asked to do some practical work at school, under your supervision. Other subjects such as Music and Drama have created activities which require your child to record performances. The Sciences will be demonstrating practicals for pupils. The Sports Department are delivering live lessons for PE and a mixture of live and pre-recorded lessons for Games. They have specific channels in their Games Team e.g. Fifth Years have live options for hockey, netball, tennis, gym and rowing, with a pre-recorded gym and yoga session provided for those who can't attend. The younger year groups, such as the First and Second Years will have live hockey and netball options.
- KS4 and KS5 courses will continue as normal.
- All subject areas have tried their very best to maintain a stimulating, interactive curriculum throughout the lockdown period.

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 the same number of hours each day as if they were in school. Pupils will be following their normal timetable, including homework timetables.

Accessing remote education

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

Pupils will be taught remotely via Teams. Most lessons will be live, but some may be pre-recorded. There may be some lessons where pupils are set tasks to do which do not necessitate a live lesson. Resources will be mostly posted on Teams, but some may be saved on Firefly. In any event, your child's teacher will make it very clear well in advance what format the lesson will take and where to find resources. Pupils are expected to have their cameras enabled so that they can fully participate in live lessons. They will be sent a guide to remind them how to access Teams and how to submit assignments.

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:

- We will lend pupils laptops if they do not have access to one at home. We ask that you let us know if this is something that you need.
- Resources for lessons will all be on Firefly or Teams. Should you need to print these out, but do not have access to a printer, let us know so that we can organise for the printed material to be sent to you/for you to collect it from the Junior School which will remain open as a base for all key worker children.
- Staff are conscious to ensure that everything you will need throughout lockdown is readily available to you.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Most lessons will be live teaching (online lessons);
- Some lessons may be pre-recorded;
- Some lessons might involve tasks set on Firefly;
- Some lessons – especially sport – will involve videos of fitness and training exercises;
- Pupils will be invited to collect resources they will need during the first few days of lockdown such as exercise/text books/printed resources.

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 expect your child to be fully involved in remote learning;
- Morning registration and tutor time will still take place, as will Chapel assembly;
- Normal timetables and the homework schedule will be operating as normal;
- Year Group hubs will offer fun activities as well;
- There will be House activities for your child to take part in;
- We expect parents/carers to offer pupils a quiet place for them to engage in remote learning and to maintain normal routines as far as possible.

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

- If your child is not 'present' in a lesson, the teacher will check to see whether he/she has been marked absent for the day;
- If your child has been marked present, then the teacher will notify you and copy in your child's Group Tutor, to ask whether there was a reason for your child's absence from the lesson;
- If your child is struggling to cope with remote learning for any reason, please let us know; equally if we feel that there is a significant change in your child's engagement with lessons, we will notify you.

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:

- Work will be marked via Assignments in Teams;
- This could take the form of quizzes as well as regular tasks applicable to each subject;
- Feedback will take place as frequently as it does when in school;
- We are continuing with our normal schedule of Grade Cards, Reports and Parents' Evenings.

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 Academic Support Department will continue to:

- teach the Support Option for KS4 pupils;
- offer 1:1 sessions and small group sessions with pupils who normally have these – and for any who feel the need for such support during lockdown whether this is help with accessing the curriculum or assistance with organisation skills;
- offer after school homework and Maths clubs;
- offer in-class support;
- liaise with outside agencies for specialist support for visual and hearing impaired pupils;
- conduct annual reviews with parents;
- for those students struggling due to SEMH, the pastoral team are maintaining close contact via Teams and home visits as necessary;
- the whole school will have an additional one-to-one remote meeting with their Tutor in the first half of the Spring Term.

In addition, our Chaplaincy Team will offer help and support to any pupils who would like to talk to them, as will our counsellor.

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?

If your child is self-isolating and well enough to participate in remote learning, the teacher will call them via Teams to enable them to follow the lesson with the rest of the class. The teacher's webcam will be positioned so that your child will be able to see the whiteboard in the classroom, or the teacher will share his/her screen with your child. Your child will be able to answer questions and offer ideas, and will hear the contributions of others.

It may not be possible for your child to participate in group work with other pupils or to have full interaction with his/her peers though.

Assignments will need to be submitted via Teams and will be marked alongside those of the rest of the class.