

Weald of Kent remote education provision: information for parents and carers

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students 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 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?

If we are notified before the start of the school day, we will include students on the 'remote learning' register for staff. This will mean they are able to access live lessons via Teams as per their normal timetable.

If the absence occurs during the school day, or after the remote learning register has been sent out, we will endeavour to inform staff, but can only guarantee inclusion on the register from the next full school day.

Class teachers will work with individuals to ensure they have not missed key class work or tasks.

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?

Students will access their normal timetabled lessons, delivered by teaching staff via Teams.

If staff are unable to deliver live lessons for sickness or other reasons, work will be provided for the students to complete by email. This work will be designed to take the same amount of time as planned lesson.

The PE department will offer activities for students to engage in

Form time will also be online via Teams, giving students the opportunity to engage each day with form tutors.

Our aim is for the online provision to mirror the face to face teaching, as best we can, that students receive in school.

This means we are able to offer the same level of support regardless of whether an individual child is isolating, a whole class, year group or we are in a larger national lockdown

In the event of a national lockdown, vulnerable and key worker students will be supervised on site to access the lessons delivered to the rest of the cohort.

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:

Secondary school-aged students not working towards formal qualifications this year	Students will access learning equivalent to their timetable. Lessons will run for the same length and at the same planned time.
Secondary school-aged students working towards formal qualifications this year	Students will access learning equivalent to their timetable. Lessons will run for the same length and at the same planned time.

Accessing remote education

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

Students log onto Teams using their school account.

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:

The school will provide IT equipment to students who do not have access at home.

The school will survey parents and carers to ascertain the need here.

If there are any other barriers to students accessing learning from home, the school will work with students and families on a case by case basis to overcome these issues.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live teaching (online lessons) via Teams
- recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- emailed/printed packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- e-textbooks and textbooks or reading books students have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- online library

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 all students to access all lessons and form time each school day.

To support parents and carers should:

- Ensure your child has somewhere appropriate to work
- Inform the school if your child is unwell and therefore unable to participate in lessons

The school will:

- Inform you if your child has missed lessons or form time

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

Teaching staff will contact students in the first instance, then parents and carers if there are any concerns in relation to student progress.

We will continue to produce reports as per our published timetable.

If you have any concerns, do contact form tutor, class teacher or head of department

We also suggest to talk to your child about the work they have done and progress they are making.

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:

Teaching staff will use a range of methods to assess students progress, this will vary according to subject.

Students will all receive regular feedback from teachers as they would if they were in school. If you child is unaware of how to improve their work, or the next steps they need to take, do please contact he class teacher who will be happy and able to provide that information.

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:

Our SEN team will continue to support and work with students with specific needs, they will make contact via Teams.

The support that is given will be bespoke to the individual child.

Remote education for self-isolating students

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?

As stated above, the core principals for the delivery of online learning are the same. The only difference for individuals is they will participate in the live face to face lesson, but will attend via Teams. If students are isolating, staff are informed (as per the process set out above) and lessons are broadcast on Teams.