

Whitstone School Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents 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.

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.
- We use modified timings for lessons to limit the amount of time students are expected to be screen facing and provided short breaks between lessons, a longer mid-morning break and a longer lunch break.

Lesson 1	9.00 to 9.40
Lesson 2	9.45 to 10.25
Lesson 3	11.05 to 11.45
Lesson 4	11.50 to 12.30
Aspire	1.30 to 1.50
Lesson 5	1.50 to 2.30

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 **five hours** each day.

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

- Your child will access online remote education through Google Classroom. 'Live' lessons will be streamed through Google Meet. Epraise will also be used to communicate with students during remote learning.

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 has a supply of laptop computers that can be loaned to parents to enable access to Google Classroom and our remote curriculum.
- The school provides technical support, in school, to parents on request. The school number is 01749 345555.
- Paper based resources can be provided on request.
- Some students will receive fully differentiated resources.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching through Google Meet, combined with individual tasks.
- Work set for students to work through independently on Google Classroom.
- All students have had access to their exercise books and additional learning materials.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents should provide at home?

- We expect students to follow their timetable and to 'attend' their lessons through Google Meet according to the revised times of the school day.
- We expect parents to support their child by ensuring that they 'attend' all their lesson, engage with the learning activities, and follow the online Behaviour for Learning Policy.
- Encourage students to engage in enrichment activities.
- Engage with pastoral support around behaviour and attendance.

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

- An attendance register is taken for every online lesson.
- Teachers review the work submitted on a weekly basis.
- Attendance is monitored on a weekly basis.
- We will contact parents by phone or Epraise if we have any attendance or engagement concerns.

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:

- Teachers will review the work submitted and provide brief written feedback through Google Classroom.
- Students will receive feedback regularly. Examples of feedback include teachers questioning individual students in the 'live' lessons either spoken or through the chat, teachers responding to student spoken and chat questions in 'live' lessons.

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:

- Lessons are made accessible to students with SEND through high quality teaching. Learning and activities are broken down into steps and stages. Staff have received additional training to help make lessons as accessible for all students whilst being delivered remotely.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the school if their child struggles to engage with remote learning because of their SEND.
- Students who are struggling with the school routine in a remote setting or with using the software delivering their curriculum can be offered the opportunity for two days in school to “reset”. Extra support is in place during this time to enable them to engage more fully from home.
- Students struggling with anxiety who have been receiving support from school emotional literacy support assistants (ELSAs) are able to access this either remotely or in certain situations on a face-to-face basis.

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?

- Students will follow their timetable and work will be set on Google Classroom for each lesson for them to work on independently.
- Welfare calls to those self-isolating.