

Remote education provision: information for parents and carers



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.

At present there are three different scenarios that may result in the need for remote education:

1. My child has tested positive for COVID-19 or has been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, and must isolate at home, following government guidance.
2. My child's cohort (year group/class) has been sent home to study remotely as part of local systems of control in place.
3. The school has been closed due to local or national lockdown restrictions.

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?

Scenario 1: pupils may be sent home from school with workbooks to complete independently in the first instance if they have their exercise books with them. They can also access Show My Homework to complete any outstanding homework tasks, log in to Google Classroom to look for assignments in their classes as well as use sites such as MyMaths and Seneca for example. The timetable of online class work will then commence the next working day.

In the event of a year group being sent home or wider school closure based on government guidance: please refer to section 'How Will My Child Be Taught Remotely?'

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. For example, in practical subjects the lessons have been tailored, given the limited access to materials/equipment.

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 following number of hours each day:

Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	4-5 hours																		
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	5-7 hours																		
We are following the current timetable timings for the school day	<table><tr><td>Pd 1</td><td>9.10</td><td>All years</td></tr><tr><td>Pd 2</td><td>10.10</td><td>All years</td></tr><tr><td>Pd 3</td><td>11.30</td><td>All years</td></tr><tr><td>Pd 4</td><td>12.40</td><td>Year 8, 9, 11, 12 & 13</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>1.10</td><td>Year 7 and 10</td></tr><tr><td>Pd 5</td><td>2.10</td><td>All years</td></tr></table>	Pd 1	9.10	All years	Pd 2	10.10	All years	Pd 3	11.30	All years	Pd 4	12.40	Year 8, 9, 11, 12 & 13		1.10	Year 7 and 10	Pd 5	2.10	All years
Pd 1	9.10	All years																	
Pd 2	10.10	All years																	
Pd 3	11.30	All years																	
Pd 4	12.40	Year 8, 9, 11, 12 & 13																	
	1.10	Year 7 and 10																	
Pd 5	2.10	All years																	

Accessing remote education

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

The main platform we use is Google Classroom and all students have been sent access codes by their subject teachers, via their school Show My Homework account. The school also uses Zoom to deliver live lessons.

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 have a limited number of devices that we can loan to students who may need support accessing online learning. For more information please contact office@southwolds.notts.sch.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers) textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- a small amount of long-term project work and/or internet research activities

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 fully understand that you as a parent/carer might not be a trained teacher but that any support and encouragement you can give your child is priceless. We do not expect you to have the answers.
- We also fully understand that your child may be in their element learning remotely, or that they might struggle to focus or grasp concepts. Across this whole spectrum of engagement, it is important that your child is encouraged to take part and get the most from this experience wherever possible.
- Tips to support your child's learning include:
 - Try to follow similar timings each day, with regular screen breaks and movement time.
 - They need to get dressed and not spend the day in pyjamas, (however tempting that is!)
 - Use encouragement so they feel some success. Equally, try not to let them give up immediately. Resilience is something we can all build and is a valuable life skill to have.
 - Are they able to have a quiet place to help them concentrate, if possible, including a flat surface to write on like a table rather than a bed?
 - Regular short breaks are important.

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

- Staff will monitor engagement through work submission and quality of work produced, as well as engagement in lessons. There is a supportive pastoral offer, with tutors and Heads of Year running sessions each week for your child, in addition to their lessons.
- Where we are concerned about engagement then the class teacher, subject leader, tutor or Head of Year will be in touch in the first instance, to share concerns about engagement and work with you to look at ways to overcome this.

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:

Students should receive feedback from their class teacher regularly – there are opportunities to ask questions, via email or Google Classroom for example, during the timetabled lesson time and students are actively encouraged to do so.

As a minimum expectation, students in KS3 should receive feedback every 4 lessons; KS4 and 5 students should receive feedback weekly.

Feedback can take on a number of formats including but not limited to:

- online submissions
- whole class feedback during the lesson
- online assessment tasks marked automatically via digital platforms such as My Maths
- written feedback
- verbal feedback where possible

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:

- Differentiation and support via class teacher
- Dedicated email address for concerns/questions about the work tasupport@southwolds.notts.sch.uk
- Remote support for students identified as being vulnerable
- Some on-site provision for the most vulnerable students

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?

Self-isolating students who are well enough to work will be able to access lesson work through Google Classroom. There will still be opportunities to ask questions but class teachers may not be able to respond immediately as they are also teaching full timetables. However they will answer questions in a timely manner. Assessment work will be set in line with classes taught in school and feedback provided in line with each subject's assessment policy. Students will be contacted by their Head of Year to ensure a well-being check and also be assigned a study buddy to help support with class notes.