



## 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 where national or local restrictions require groups of pupils to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

### The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

#### Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

We are committed to providing our normal curriculum to pupils in as far as is possible whilst they are required to work from home. Pupils will be taught the majority of their subjects through live lessons facilitated by Microsoft Teams and will follow their normal timetable for each day. Lessons will generally only be 50 minutes instead of 1 hour to give pupils a break from the screen between lessons. We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school with the exception of PE where a series of challenges and activities are provided to keep the pupils active. For practical subjects the curriculum will be adapted as pupils will have less access to materials

### 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:

<b>Key Stage 2</b>	Pupils will follow their existing timetable and will have 5 lessons a day. The lessons will be shortened to
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	50 minutes each. The lessons will be provided live through Microsoft Teams and pupils will also have the opportunity for independent work.
<b>Key Stage 3 and 4</b>	Pupils will follow their existing timetable and will have 5 lessons a day. The lessons will be shortened to 50 minutes each. The lessons will be provided live through Microsoft Teams and pupils will also have the opportunity for independent work.

## **Accessing remote education**

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

The school uses the Microsoft 365 suite of applications and all pupils are familiar with these as they are used in school.

Live lessons will be provided using Microsoft Teams and resources are accessed using this or other Microsoft 365 applications.

Extensive training is given to staff and pupils, including The Unicorn School YouTube channel which has how to videos to support staff, pupils and parents.

### **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:

The majority of pupils in KS3 & KS4 have access to their own devices as we run a Bring Your Own Device to school policy for these years. Any pupil in KS2 / 3 / 4 who does not have access to their own device or a device they can use at home is able to borrow a Chrome Book from school.

At the start of a period of remote learning the ICT lead will send a communication to parents with the offer of borrowing a device from school. Class and subject teachers are also able to offer this to pupils on an individual basis if they see a need during their teaching.

## **How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

- The majority of the curriculum is provided by live online teaching which pupils will access from home or from a device in school if they are attending school.
- Additionally some lessons will include access to recorded teaching (e.g. White Rose Maths videos, Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- For some lessons printed packs may be posted home in advance
- Pupils will be encouraged to use textbooks and reading books that they have at home where appropriate
- Pupils will also have work set using platforms that are regularly used in school, including but not limited to Mathletics, Mathspad, TTRS, Tassomi

## **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 value the support that our parents and carers provide and acknowledge the important role it plays in pupil engagement.

Further details are provided in our Remote Learning Handbook which is also available on our website.

### **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 in each live lesson and concerns fed back to the class teacher who will contact home to see if additional support is required.
- Pupils are asked to submit work, ideally using Teams Assignments but photographs of work by email or Team Chat is also accepted. This work will be marked and feedback given to pupils either written on their work or verbally.

### **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:

- Pupils will submit work regularly using Teams Assignments
- Feedback will be provided either written or verbal as appropriate
- Informal assessments using Microsoft Forms or other online quizzes will also be used where appropriate

## **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 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:

- Teachers and Teaching Assistants will make use of Break Out rooms in Microsoft Teams to support individuals and small groups of pupils on a particular task.
- Pupils who have a one-to-one teaching assistant will work with them remotely once they have received the input from the class or subject teacher.
- Senior staff with a smaller teaching load will be used to support individual pupils either for a particular session or on an ongoing basis where there is a recognised need.
- Pastoral Head is in regular contact with staff to identify early any pupils who are struggling and put appropriate interventions in place

## **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 a pupil is self-isolating at home they will join the lessons remotely via Microsoft Teams so that they have access to the full curriculum and learn alongside their in-school peers. Worksheets and other tasks will be set using Teams Assignments which pupils can then return to be marked and receive feedback.