

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?

Students needing to be sent home due to positive test or bubble closure will trigger a series of actions to enable continued learning during their absence.

- Staff will be informed of students who will be isolating to enable work packs to be prepared for their missed lessons.
- Students requiring technology (laptop/dongle) will be referred to IT support and arrangements made to have these provided on a loan basis.
- Where possible students will have face to face "meet-up" with tutor team via google meet to check technology is working correctly and access is available.

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, there are limitations in some practical subjects – Science, D&T/construction, food technology, art, PE, where pupils do not have access to the direct instruction and physical resources that come with the subject.
- Regardless of the subject, teachers will upload suitable work tasks/puzzles/quizzes/projects on Google Classroom. The tasks will be appropriate for online learning and maintain continuity and progression of learning within that subject

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:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Primary school-aged pupils | 4 hours |
| Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year | 5 hours |
| Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year | 5 hours |

Accessing remote education

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

Use of Online Platform – Class Dojo

During this time, KS2 and KS3 and some KS4 classes at New Park Academy will be using the online platform Class Dojo as a communication tool. This is a cloud software system, which teachers can safely access, using any device in their homes.

Under the current circumstances, the lawful basis under which we are using this online platform is to allow education to continue during a public health emergency, which is therefore a necessary part of providing education at this time.

Teaching staff will use the Class Dojo platform to communicate with their class to:

- share website links
- share documents which provide educational work/tasks
- share pre-recorded videos adhering to the following guidelines: wearing suitable clothing, recording in an appropriate area, using appropriate language, keeping to a reasonable length of time
- share examples of work sent in by children in the class
- give appropriate praise to the class/groups/individuals, for example for work shared or for effort
- award learning behaviour stickers
- send motivational messages and encouragement to the class/groups/individuals, where this relates to educational tasks
- communicate with parents/carers about their child's welfare

When children leave the school, all their data must be deleted from Class Dojo and parent/carer communication access removed (unless they have a sibling still in the school).

Use of Online Platform – GSuite/Google Classroom

Pupils will receive work from their subject teachers via Google Classroom and respond to tasks set also via Google Classroom. Pupils will log in using their school user account and password and not a personal account.

This is a cloud software system, which pupils and teachers can safely access using any device in their homes.

Under the current circumstances, the lawful basis under which we are using this online platform is to allow education to continue during a public health emergency, which is therefore a necessary part of providing education at this time.

Teaching staff will use the Google Classroom platform to communicate with their class to:

- share website links
- share documents which provide educational work/tasks
- share pre-recorded videos adhering to the following guidelines: wearing suitable clothing, recording in an appropriate area, using appropriate language, keeping to a reasonable length of time.

Pupils will use the Google Classroom platform to:

- access and complete work provided by class and subject teachers in named folders.
- access websites via links provided where activities have been set by class and subject teachers.

Use of Websites

Teaching staff will share website links to direct parents/carers towards websites that they believe contain age-appropriate materials. Teachers will vet them initially, but these sights are updated regularly and so it is important that parents still monitor and check them regularly. We remind parents/carers to set age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices and use internet filters to block malicious websites. We are happy for parents/carers to contact school if they are not sure how to set parental controls and our Technician will be happy to support.

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:

Students with no access to laptop/PC/tablet/phone/games consoles:

- Students will be provided with a device on which they can complete their work. Devices are provided on a loan basis. Parental/carers agreement to be signed in advance. Student online behaviour agreement to be signed in advance.

Students with no internet access:

- Students will be provided with a dongle device to enable internet connectivity. Devices are provided on a loan basis. Parental/carers agreement to be signed in advance. Student online behaviour agreement to be signed in advance.

Students averse to accessing technology:

- Students will be provided with paper-based learning tasks to ensure continuity and progression within subjects. Work will be delivered/collected weekly by EOTAS.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- Google Classroom – work set in subject folders
- MyMaths – online lesson and online homework
- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g., video/audio recordings made by teachers; Oak National Academy lessons;)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities set within a structured lesson.

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?

Students in New Park are all different and as a consequence, respond differently to changing circumstances. The mode of engagement is likely to be different for students, even within the same form; however, as teachers, we aim to provide all learners with equity of opportunity and will provide work in the most suitable format for each student.

It is the school's expectation that all students participate in learning during periods of isolation/lockdown regardless of the type of learning they are undertaking.

- Work being set on Google Classroom/MyMaths can be completed at a time that is convenient for student/family
- Live face to face lessons/learning support interventions/counselling will take place at set times and cannot be changed to suit individuals.
- It is the expectation that for live face to face lessons, students are up, fully dressed and ready to log-on in time for their lesson.
- Parental support is essential to ensure that the student is up, fully dressed and logged-on in time for their lesson. Parents/carers will be provided with student log-in details in case their child forgets.

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

- Staff will be able to gauge the level of pupil engagement by monitoring work completed online via Google Classroom/MyMaths.
- Work is submitted automatically through MyMaths. Google Classroom requires work to be “handed in” through their subject folder once completed
- For Maths/English, teachers will check for completed work daily. Subject teachers will check for completed work once each week after the timetabled lesson.
- Paper-based work will be delivered/collected weekly by EOTAS
- Students will be positively encouraged to complete work set whatever the format – consequences are NOT appropriate at this time, so all emphasis is on positive engagement and positive reinforcement.
- Parents/Carers will be informed of any concerns via phone/text/email/dojo

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:

- Student work set remotely can be assessed in a variety of ways depending on the type of work. MyMaths, Kahoot and Quizizz tasks will be marked automatically on the platform. Feedback is instant for both student and teacher.
- Written work/tasks set via Google Classroom will be assessed by teachers online, using short comments to provide feedback. Students can access their feedback directly in their subject folder.
- Maths and English work will be checked daily. Other subjects, once a week after the timetabled lesson.

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 of our 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:

The main barrier our students encountered in March 2020 was the unfamiliar nature of online learning. To counter this, when returning in September, all students participated in Google Classroom lessons in school. Students were supported in their tutor groups, accessing Maths and English lessons using the platform. Students learnt how to log-in, how to access their work and how to edit word/pdf documents and then “hand in” completed tasks. This focus on enabling students to have the skills needed to navigate the platform has given them increased confidence to access work more independently.

Ongoing support:

- Continued face to face google meetings for both lessons and wellbeing
- Open dialogue with parents/carers via text/email/phone/dojo to provide academic support and IT support when necessary.

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?

- Should a student have to isolate, they will be expected to continue to engage in learning. Work will be either paper-based or online dependent on the student.
- Where possible, students will be expected to join their class remotely via google meet for English and Maths live face to face lessons.
- Additional lessons will follow the regular timetable and where appropriate, will be live on google meet. All timetabled lessons will have suitable work in their google classroom folder to ensure continuity and progression through the subject/topic being studied.