

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?

Work for students will be posted on Microsoft Teams under 'Assignments' or 'Class Notebook' while live lessons are scheduled.

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?

Remote education (including online teaching and independent work) will take students a similar amount of time as they spend on work in school. Students will be expected to attend Form time each morning from 9.05am and follow their normal school timetable. We will teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school however, there may be some adaptations in practical subjects such as PE, Dance, Art and Graphics.

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 | 5 hours minimum |
| Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year | 5 hours minimum |

Accessing remote education

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

Microsoft Teams will be used to deliver remote learning. This will enable teachers to teach live lessons online as each timetabled class is a 'Team'. Work will be set under 'Assignments' or Class Notebook' in each Team. Students have had full training on how to access and use Teams and full instructions on how to use it are on our web-site under 'Online learning'.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

As a School we recognise that some students may not have suitable online access at home, be it a device or internet access. If this is the case then parents and carers are to contact us immediately by email - enquiries@st-matthias.com . We will do all can to support children and will provide paper packs of learning where necessary.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching using Microsoft Teams.
- Written work set through the 'Assignment' and 'Class Notebook' functions in Microsoft Teams.
- Online learning platforms such as Hegarty Maths and Language Gym.
- Working from online textbooks.

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?

As a School we expect students to attend and engage in all remote lessons as set out in their school timetable in order for them to complete and learn the planned curriculum. Parents and carers can support students by:

- Providing them with a place to work that is quiet, safe and free from distractions with an adult nearby. Online lessons should not take place in a student's bedroom.
- Ensuring that there are no distractions for the student whilst on an online lesson e.g., mobile phones and be mindful about what family activities would potentially be heard during the student's online lesson.
- Making sure that your child is dressed appropriately. Clothes suitable for a non-school uniform day are appropriate.
- Ensuring that online communication is only between teachers and students.

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

Students will attend Form time daily and student engagement is checked daily in each lesson by the class teacher and a register will be taken. Parents and carers will be contacted by telephone and/or email if their child is not engaging with their remote learning.

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:

- Check or assess for understanding each lesson.
- Feedback regularly on common issues relevant to the whole class.
- Feedback for written work will be given regularly through the 'Assignment' and 'Class Notebook' function in Microsoft Teams.
- Instant feedback will be given by the online platforms.

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:

- Ensuring the learning is accessible for your child to attempt independently, with incremental steps that promote stretch and challenge within your child's capabilities.
- Providing Learning Support staff within the online lessons to work with your child alongside the teacher.
- Offering students with an EHCP a place within school to complete remote learning with additional help from Learning Support staff.
- Scheduled personalised support sessions for students with an EHCP as required.
- Links to SEND specialist staff e.g., from the HI and VI team, sharing advice regarding best practice with supporting your child.

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?

In the case of a child having been asked to self-isolate by the school, teachers will upload the content of their lesson to Microsoft Teams. Where possible we will aim to 'stream' some or all of the lesson using Teams.