

**Sydenham School Remote Learning
Information for parents**



Remote education provision: information for parents and carers

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles of students) to remain at home.

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

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.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of students being sent home?

- Students will be sent work to complete using Show My Homework and Teams
- Students should check Show My Homework and their school email address for details of the work set.

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. Students will follow their usual school timetables. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, PE and other practical subjects.

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 students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Years 7 and 8	5 hours a day of lessons and up to 30 minutes of homework for each subject
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Year 9	5 hours a day of lessons and up to 40 minutes of homework for each subject
Years 10 and 11	5 hours a day of lessons and up to 50 minutes of homework for each subject
Sixth Form students (weekly)	Students will have 5 hours of lessons per subject per week and in addition up to 5 hours of independent study per subject each week.

Accessing remote education

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

- Students access their school emails, live lessons and lesson resources using the Office365 suite. 'Live' lessons are delivered using Microsoft Teams.
- We also use Show My Homework to set homework and some other remote tasks. This allows parents and carers as well as students to see the homework that has been set.

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:

- Students who need to loan a laptop because they do not have a device at home, or do not have access to a reliable internet connection, should contact Ms Wijnberg at e.wijnberg@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk. Students in receipt of Free School Meals will be prioritised
- Students who do not have access to adequate mobile data can complete the form on this link to increase their allowance up until 31/01//21: [Increase Mobile Data Form](#)
- Students requiring printed materials should contact their Year Learning Coordinator.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Students follow a timetable of live teaching (online lessons) via Teams which follows their usual school timetable
- Some recorded teaching (e.g. video/audio recordings made by teachers) may be used as part of these lessons
- Live lessons will not mean that teachers or students will be on screen for the whole of a lesson and students should expect to be set some independent tasks as part of their learning. These are a really important way to help students develop the habit of independent practice.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences will be used as part of the lessons where appropriate
- Textbooks and reading books student have at home will used where appropriate
- Where a teacher is absent, cover work will be set using Show My Homework

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 expect students to participate in the 'live' online lessons unless they are unwell. Where students have any technical difficulties with this, parents or carers should contact the school
- Students should follow the protocols for 'live' online lessons that have been sent home and teachers will remind students of these regularly
- It is helpful if parents and carers make sure that their child is checking their school emails each day and is completing the homework set on Show My Homework.

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

- Teachers will continue to take the lesson register on Sims and the schools attendance team will contact families where students are not attending online lessons
- Teachers will monitor the completion of work set
- Teachers, Curriculum Leaders or Year Learning Coordinators will get in touch with parents or carers if we have any concerns regarding students' engagement.

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 students. 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:

The [Sydenham School Feedback Policy](#) is adapted as follows:

- Teachers will provide feedback 'in the moment' during lessons for individuals and whole classes using verbal feedback or feedback via the chat function in Teams lessons
- Teachers will set quizzes via MSForms to check student's understanding of important knowledge taught
- Written feedback will be given for identified pieces of work and these will be submitted using Assignments on Teams and email

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:

- Annual reviews will continue to be completed virtually.
- All students on the SEND register have a key professional who supports the student directly and is able to liaise with the student and family to support their organisation.
- Teachers will continue to plan for the additional needs of all students in their classes, and ensure that the resources used are appropriate for all students to access. This should support parents and carers to ensure their child is able to access their learning.
- Personalised scaffolding materials can be set individually for students via Show My Homework. Parents are also able to check this.
- EAL students have access to Learning Village to support their learning of English. Parents are also able to monitor this.
- Teaching Assistants will attend virtual lessons as far as possible to understand the content of the lesson and to support in breakout groups if appropriate. They may also be able to complete 'live scaffolding' via email. This supports parents and carers to ensure their child is able to access the learning.
- Small group interventions will continue where possible.
- We will work with parents/carers and the child to complete a risk assessment for those students with an EHCP that choose not to attend school where this is an option.
- Continued and effective communication with the parents and carers so that any individual needs are supported.

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 complexity 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 receive work set via email and Show My Homework for the first day of self-isolation
- Where a whole class or the vast majority of a class is self-isolating, students will be able to join lessons remotely using Teams following their usual timetable
- Where the majority of the class is still in school, the student will be set appropriate work to do using Show My Homework
- Sixth Form students will be invited to attend the lesson via Teams following their usual timetable.