

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 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?

If pupils are sent home then pupils should complete all work set in their Teams assignments folder and any outstanding homework. Lessons will be broadcast from the following day allowing the pupils to access remote teaching and to be involved in the lesson.

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?

Please see below some statements that may be helpful. In this section, please delete all statements that do not apply, and add details if appropriate:

- 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 such as Computing and Technology pupils may not have access to appropriate software
 - In PE pupils may not be able to participate fully in some Sports

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:

Key Stage 3 and 4	Pupils in KS3 and KS4 can expect 5 hours of remote learning per day. This may not necessarily mean directed teaching, however teachers will be available to answer questions as pupils are working independently.
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Accessing remote education

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

All pupils have a Microsoft Teams account and can access this account from any device. Pupils have a login in the form of username@st-leonards.durham.sch.uk and must enter their school password.

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 will issue laptops to pupils entitled to Pupil Premium funding in the first instance. These can be requested by emailing admin@st-leonards.durham.sch.uk All other families may request laptops if available.
- The school has access to a limited number of wifi dongles. These can be requested by emailing admin@st-leonards.durham.sch.uk
- Parents/carers may request printed materials in exceptional circumstances only such as having no access to the Internet. Pupils should have all of the necessary books and texts at home.
- Pupils may submit work into school for marking in exceptional circumstances only such as having no access to the Internet.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

All pupils will be taught remotely using the following tools available

- live teaching (online lessons)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets) which the pupils should already have access to at home. Further information will be supplied on Teams.
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

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?

It is an expectation that all pupils attend online lessons, including pastoral time, and fully engage as they would in class. This includes answering questions, submitting work and behaving in an appropriate manner. Pupils should be supported at home to ensure that routines, such as getting washed and ready, having breaks and taking exercise, follows the pattern of the school day.

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

A register will be taken each period and pupil absence / lack of engagement will be followed up by the class teacher in the first instance. Where two or more subjects present a concern then a Head of Year will be in contact to offer support and advice.

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:

- Teaching staff will use the tools available in MS Teams to feed back work to pupils. Pupils are encouraged to upload work via photographs although this may not always be 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:

LSAs and other services will also join lessons as they would in school. It may be appropriate for LSAs to spend time teaching ICT skills and other content in order to facilitate access to formal Teams lessons.

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?

Although pupils will be able to hear their teacher and class peers no live video broadcasting will be permitted. Pupils will be able to raise their hands and speak at appropriate times when directed by the teacher. Class teachers are aware that they will need to plan and adapt their lessons accordingly to take into account differences such as being unable to see whiteboards.