

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions due to COVID – 19 require students to remain at home.

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?

On the first day of remote education, your child's class teacher will phone you and provide you with a link to the online learning platform. A copy of the remote timetable will be sent to you by email as well as by post with the learning resources sent for your child. The login will be for all timetabled subjects and students will need to login to access classes. Your child will also be either posted or hand delivered resources to be used for all lessons.

All students will follow a slightly adapted timetable but will receive the same amount of curriculum time per subject as they would do during a normal school week. The days/times of lessons may have shifted slightly. For each lesson, students will have work set for them to complete and submit. Subjects will use live or blended learning with live lessons (particularly in English, Maths and Science) conducted on Zoom.

All year groups will be expected to hand in work to be marked on a weekly basis, this will be collected by the pastoral team every Friday and will be marked by class teachers.

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?

In the majority of instances, we will be teaching the same curriculum online as we would have done in school. However, in some subject areas such as Motor Vehicle Studies and Sport we have had to make adaptations to the curriculum to take into account the space and resources that students have available to them. These adaptations are being monitored by the members of staff responsible for these curriculum areas and any curriculum gaps which develop will be rectified upon students return to school.

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:

Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year.	Approximately 4 hours per day
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	Approximately 5 hours per day

Accessing remote education

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

All remote education at Orion School will be provided through Zoom. Each year group has a specific login, which students will have been provided with on the first day of remote learning.

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:

Please contact us via the school office if you do not have digital or online access and we will let you know how we can support your child with their learning. Where it is not possible to loan IT equipment, we will provide printed paper packs of work that can be completed at home and will work with you on an individual basis. This will be coordinated by teachers and the pastoral team. Zoom is accessible on mobile phones so children can join in with online live teaching sessions prior to using printed materials.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online lessons)
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.
- Digital resource packs generated by teachers.
- Printed subject work packs and resources designed by teachers.

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?

- Registers will be kept for each online session; all children are expected to attend each remote session.
- Work set will be marked and feedback will be given each week.
- If children are not engaging with the online learning, we will contact you by phone and offer support.
- Parents and carers are not expected to teach the children, but discussion of their learning is encouraged.
- Setting up a routine at home can be helpful with engagement in online learning, some tips to try: -
 - Designate a workspace for students
 - Keep this separate from social spaces to distinguish between school time and own time.
 - Keep to the normal timings of a school day as this will support the transition back into school when we re-open.

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

Each day's attendance mark and work completed will be tracked for each student. Where a student's engagement is a concern either their teacher or the Head of School will phone home to communicate this concern and identify ways we can support. Students completion rates will be communicated home to parents at least every week by either their teacher or the head of the pastoral team, to support you in having conversations with your child about their progress.

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 student work is as follows:

Assessments may take different forms during the online learning process, such as: online quizzes, exam questions, discussions during live lessons. Teachers will provide feedback on work completed online every week in all year groups. This will take one of the following forms:

- A written comment on a piece of work
- A score for a quiz set online
- Verbal feedback during a live session

During the live lessons, children are encouraged to use the chat function to answer questions and receive feedback from teachers.

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:

- Work will be differentiated to match the broad requirements of each year group.
- A member of the teaching team will be available to offer additional support if needed during Zoom online learning.
- Members of the school SEND team will continue to work closely to support individual students/ families.

We endeavour to provide a remote education platform that is accessible for all students and where needed will provide additional support to parents in getting students online and accessing the work. Where a digital platform is deemed not appropriate for a student, in agreement with the parents/carers and SENDCO we will provide paper-based work packs for these students.

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 challenges 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?

As your child's class teacher will be teaching all day in school, they will not be able to create a bespoke set of online resources and remote lessons for an individual. Our provision in these circumstances will be as follows:

- A work pack will be posted or delivered to your home for each subject, containing instructions and resources for home learning.
- Your child's teacher will contact you to discuss the content of the work pack and will email links to you to support their learning e.g. access the Government backed website The Oak National Academy.
- Work for your child will be collected weekly by the Pastoral Team and marked by the class Teacher.
- Your child's class teacher or the pastoral team will call you each week for feedback on your child's progress and to support with any aspects of learning.