

Remote education provision: information for parents

Introduction

At The Dukeries Academy our Remote Learning offer is now well-established. We have in place a range of measures to ensure that your child's education can continue online in a range of different circumstances. In any type of closure, or lockdown situation, your child will access their education through Microsoft Teams. Every student can log-in to Teams, using their normal Academy email address, and a series of short video guides to support you with access and functionality can be found here:

<https://www.dukeries.atrust.org.uk/students/home-learning/>

If your child requires a password reset or is encountering technical difficulties you can contact us by email office@dukeries.atrust.org.uk and a member of our team will support you in resolving the issue.

In the instance of a National Lockdown, your child will access their full curriculum, including new learning, via Live Lessons delivered in Microsoft Teams. Your child may be asked to use their normal Class Team, where they should have their normal teachers every day. Sometimes, your child may be added to a specific Remote Learning Group, and whilst they still access their full curriculum, may have different teachers to normal. This is so that we can create capacity on the Academy site for the provision of children of Key Workers, for example.

In the situation where there is a positive confirmed case of COVID-19, our internal track and trace system will be quickly deployed to identify the groups of students who will be required to stay at home. If your child is affected, on the same day, they will be added to an "Isolation Group" in Microsoft Teams and the staffing on the Academy site will be redistributed, so that your child has a dedicated online teacher. Your child's full curriculum offer will continue online, but they may not always have the teacher that they expect.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

Our normal curriculum will always be delivered as far as possible. We will deliver Live Lessons and ensure that your child has regular interaction with their teachers. Our teachers will use a range of different approaches to ensure that your child receives the best possible learning experiences. They will provide:

- Live instruction in lessons over Microsoft Teams
- Video instruction from reputable national providers, such as Oak National Academy

- Opportunities for feedback through the use of Assignments in MS Teams
- Independent, extended time away from the screen to put learning into practice

As far as possible, we will also ensure that we continue our commitment to enrichment and wider opportunities. In the event of a National Lockdown, your child may receive an Enrichment Calendar, detailing specially planned events, delivered by subjects areas and linked closely to the curriculum, which are designed to provide your child with time away from the screen and provide further cultural education.

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

Our Remote Learning offer is now sophisticated and well-placed to provide full and equitable education for all students at short notice. You can expect that in any scenario, your child’s provision will be organised on the day of closure and will be live, in full, the following day. This means that your child will be expected to log-on to Microsoft Teams at 8.40am for their Tutor Time, where their dedicated Tutor will share their timetable and ensure that all necessary information has been explained. From this point, your child will experience a full suite of lessons, just as they would if they were learning face-to-face on the Academy site.

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 would face-to-face in the Academy whenever possible. However, sometimes we need to make adaptations to some subjects. This might be because a particular planned topic is especially complex, and would be best delivered face-to-face on return to the Academy. Our expert Faculty Leaders make these decisions, with the support of SLT, to ensure that your child continues with new learning, but receives a comprehensive Remote Learning offer that is wholly appropriate and ensures your child excels.

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, 4 and 5	Across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5, all students will be expected to spend the same time learning that they would during their normal Academy
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	day. Students log-on to a Tutor Time at 8.40am and will experience a full calendar of Live Lessons until the end of the Academy day at 3.00pm.
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Accessing remote education

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

All our students will access their Remote Learning offer through Microsoft Teams. All students have logins for this platform. Teachers may use other online platforms as supplementary systems to the Live Lessons planned in Microsoft Teams. Some of these may include:

- GCSE Pod <https://www.gcsepod.com/>
- Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>
- Seneca <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
- Hegarty Maths <https://hegartymaths.com/>
- Edmodo <https://new.edmodo.com/>

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

We are committed to eradicating digital poverty within our community. We have already made sure that families who need them, have received laptops provided by the Department of Education or purchased by the Academy. We have also issued Internet access via 'dongles' and SIM cards provided by Vodafone, so that families who need Internet access have been able to secure this. Families can sign up to a government programme to provide additional free internet provision through your current data provider <https://www.dukeries.attrust.org.uk/increase-mobile-data-allowances/>

We will continue to support our community with technology, as and when needs arise. Please contact the Academy if you require support on office@dukeries.attrust.org.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

As part of our Remote Learning offer, we will always use a Live Lesson approach, and a teacher will be available to support your child, direct their learning and answer any questions. We may however use a blend of approaches when we give instruction. This could be done:

- Live by the teacher

But it may also be done using:

- Pre-recorded videos
- Reputable resources such as Oak National Academy lessons

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 three things from your child as they are educated remotely and at home. These are:

- Your child should attend every Live Lesson and we will track your child's attendance
- Your child should engage with their teacher in lessons. This might be through responding to questions, or by communicating in the lesson chat
- Your child should return work to us. In every lesson, the teacher will ask for work to be submitted. Your child is expected to complete and return this work, every lesson, as they would in a face-to-face lesson.

As parents, we require your support in ensuring that the three expectations above are met. It is important that all our children can form a routine each day, and understand that they need to attend lessons, engage with their teachers, and submit work to us. We understand that this can create significant pressures for our students when working from home. We are always on hand to support you with any concerns or difficulties you may be facing as your child learns from home – please contact us.

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

We will always check:

- Your child's attendance
- Your child's engagement in lessons
- The amount and quality of work that your child sends to us.

We will check attendance every day. You can expect your child's Pastoral Leader to contact you if they have not logged into their live lessons. They will then work with you to make sure that this is rectified. If your child is ill, please contact the Academy Attendance Line, as normal, to inform us.

Teachers and Faculty Leaders will also check engagement. You may be contacted if your child has been online but has been unresponsive to questions or has left a lesson early, for example.

We are also working hard to track the quantity and quality of work submitted by our students. We have begun to do this through the Assignments feature in Microsoft Teams. It is so important that your child returns work to us each lesson, so that we can track their progress, give meaningful feedback and plan carefully for future lessons. If your child has not submitted work in a specific subject, you can expect that their teacher or the Faculty Leader will be in touch to solve this. If they have not submitted work across a range of subjects, you can expect that the Standards and Progress Leader will be in touch to resolve any issues.

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. You can expect your child to receive high-quality, consistent feedback on a regular-basis and this may be delivered as:

- Verbal feedback over the microphone
- Written feedback in the lesson chat
- Annotated documents
- Feedback using the Assignments function
- Use of self-marking digital platforms

Teachers will ensure that the most appropriate form of feedback is selected and applied. This could depend on the content being delivered, the point in the curriculum or the type of work being assessed.

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 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 pupils in the following ways:

- Wherever possible, students will be encouraged and supported to access live lessons. A member of the SEND team can contact you to support both you and

your child to be able to access these lessons and understand how the work to be completed could be differentiated to meet your child's needs. For these students the teacher will monitor the return of work and provide feedback in line with the whole class.

- If a student's SEND is related to cognition and learning they may access smaller group live lessons for Maths.
- If accessing live lessons does not meet a student's learning needs, then a member of the SEND Team will liaise with you to provide a weekly work pack. If your child is accessing remote learning through the provision of a work pack their SEND Keyworker will contact you at least 3 times a week to check progress. The work completed will need to be returned to the Academy each week so that your child's keyworker can provide feedback. This can be done by emailing the work or photographs of the work or dropping it off at the Academy reception.
- For some students a mixture of live lessons and work packs will be made accessible.
- If a student has a SEND Keyworker, they will be in touch at least once a week to check your child's engagement with their work. For students who are finding remote education challenging this will be increased to either 3 times per week or every day. You can contact your child's keyworker via email. Please ask for their address when they contact you if you don't already have it.
- If you would like to speak to the SENDCO about your child's provision please call the Academy on 01623 860545 in the usual way.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

In cases where we are providing Remote Learning for individual students or small groups, your child will have access to all their lessons through Microsoft Teams, but through their Class Notebook. In their Class Notebook your child will be able to access all their lesson PowerPoints and other resources for them to work through independently. Your child's teacher and/or their Pastoral Leader will be in regular contact to ensure that the work is understood and to provide additional support where necessary.