

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

January 2021

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to parents, carers and students about learning remotely if local or national restrictions require entire cohorts or bubbles to remain at home.

For details of what to expect when individual students are self-isolating (when the school is open), please see the final section of this document.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

The remote curriculum at Weatherhead is aligned to the classroom curriculum. Students will study the same curriculum content at home as they would in school. Teachers will follow department planning schedules to deliver remote education to ensure continuity of learning for all our students.

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

In the event of any kind of school closure or isolation of a class or year group bubble, the school will provide continuity of education. Students will receive immediate remote education by following their normal school timetables and accessing remote education via their subject Google Classrooms, by logging into Google Classroom at the start of their timetabled 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?

Teachers will set the same topic and remote work linked to what would have been delivered in school. Tasks will be set in accordance with existing schemes of work and planning schedules. Remote work will be designed to allow students to progress through schemes of work at the same pace as if they were in school, where possible. Naturally, remote learning will require students and teachers to take a different approach to working through content, but tasks should ensure the pace of content coverage is as close as possible to in-school teaching, and ensure students do not fall behind.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

Our teachers will provide remote education (including remote teaching through Google classroom, some live lessons and opportunity for students to complete independent work) that is equivalent in length to the core teaching students would receive in school, which equates to 5 hours each day for secondary students. In order to support students with their learning, organisation and wellbeing, the school has timetabled 30 minutes of consolidation time at the end of each day.

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Accessing remote education

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

Each day, students will be able access all class work remotely in Google Classroom. Students follow their normal timetable and log into Google Classroom at the beginning of each lesson.

Teachers will generate and share links for accessing live lessons with students/classes in Google Classroom.

At Weatherhead High School, we use the following online platforms:

- Google Classroom (Google Suites)
- The Oak National Academy
- Hegarty Maths
- The Everlearner
- SAM Learning
- PiXL
- Kerboodle
- LanguageNut
- Seneca Learning
- BBC Bitesize

These are our main platforms but this list is not exhaustive. Further information on our online platforms can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

<https://weatherheadhigh.co.uk/curriculum/e-learning/>

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

The Senior Leadership Team has completed a comprehensive audit of students' access to technology and the internet at home. The school has provided laptops and internet connectivity to students who do not have access to technology at home. This will be reviewed and further support will be given to students in the event of their family circumstances changing.

The school also supports students by providing additional textbooks, resources and art materials, if needed.

Parents should email curriculum@weatherheadhigh.co.uk or telephone the school (0151 631 4400) if they need any assistance with accessing remote education.

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How will my child be taught remotely?

Teachers use a variety of methods to deliver remote education. The school is following the DFE guidelines and expectations regarding the delivery of remote learning and in summary, when teaching students remotely, teachers will:

- set meaningful, ambitious and engaging work, assessments and assignments to aid and consolidate learning in Google Classroom or on a teaching and learning platform like Hegarty Maths or The Everlearner;
- use recorded or live direct teaching (recorded lessons may be delivered by our teachers or from high-quality online resources such as Oak National Academy and Hegarty Maths);
- provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos;
- give time for students to complete tasks, assessments and assignments independently submitted through Google Classroom, and;
- provide feedback to students, so they are clear about how to improve and develop their learning.

Live Lesson Weekly Provision:

KS5:

	Minimum number of live lessons each week	Technology Platform
Year 13	2 live lessons in each subject	Zoom or Google Meet
Year 12	3 live lessons in each subject	Zoom or Google Meet

KS4:

Subject	Minimum number of live lessons each week	Technology Platform
English & Maths	2 live lessons in each subject	Zoom or Google Meet
Science	3 live lessons	Zoom or Google Meet
Option Subjects	1 live lesson in each subject	Zoom or Google Meet

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KS3:

Subject	Minimum number of live lessons each week	Technology Platform
English, Maths & Science	2 live lessons in each subject	Google Meet
History, Geography & MFL	1 live lesson in each subject	Google Meet

Students in each key stage all receive a 'live' form period once every two weeks. Form Tutors provide pastoral support and guidance for learning remotely.

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?

Students will be expected to participate as fully as possible in the remote learning process by completing work to the best of their ability and adhering to set deadlines.

Students will be expected to log into Google Classroom following their normal timetable at the start of each lesson, so they can participate in remote learning.

When asked for, work must be uploaded into Google Classroom promptly to enable teachers to provide timely feedback.

If students require any additional support from their teacher, they should contact them through Google Classroom. Students should do this during the school (working) day. Comments posted by students in Google Classroom must be linked to classwork and the student's learning. Google Classroom must not be used to post personal information or personal messages to teachers and students. Teachers will only respond to questions from students that are related to their learning (teachers will only do this during the school day).

When accessing live lessons from home, students **must** not share the Google Meet/Zoom links with anyone else.

When students join a live lesson, they need to wait for the lesson to start in the waiting room.

They should work in a family space where possible (not their bedroom) and wear clothing appropriate for school.

Students should have their camera switched on and their microphone muted when they join the lesson.

Cameras should be switched on until the teacher has finished registering the students, where possible.

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What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home? continued.

Microphones should be switched off for the duration of the lesson (background noise, sounds or music must not interrupt the lesson).

Students should only switch on their microphone to answer a direct question from their teacher or to ask a teacher a question related to your work or learning.

The chat function may be used by students to ask a question to a teacher about a student's work or learning.

At the end of a live lesson, following the teacher's instructions, students should leave in the same sensible way they would exit a classroom in school.

Live lessons must not be recorded by students or parents.

Students must follow the School's Behaviour for Learning Policy at all times and conduct themselves in the manner expected as if they were in the classroom setting at school.

Any inappropriate behaviour may result in the student being removed from the virtual lesson, the appropriate sanction will be applied and parents/carers may be contacted.

The curriculum section on the School's website contains useful links and learning resources, which you can access by clicking on the link below:

<https://weatherheadhigh.co.uk/curriculum/e-learning/>

If parents and carers have any questions regarding remote learning or if they require any additional support contact Mrs. Rogers, Deputy Headteacher, by using the email address below:

curriculum@weatherheadhigh.co.uk

Parents and carers should not email members of staff directly or use Google Classroom to communicate with teachers. Mrs Rogers will deal with all curriculum queries in the first instance.

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

Each day, teachers check student engagement with remote learning through attendance at live lessons and work/communication via Google Classroom.

Engagement is monitored centrally by SLT.

A member of staff will contact parents and carers of students who are not engaging in lessons or completing work that has been set and offer support to secure future engagement in learning.

Engagement with remote learning will be discussed at the scheduled remote Parents' Evenings.

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How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Tasks completed by students will be assessed in a number of ways:

- Some work will be completed directly in Google Classroom and teachers will be able to see and produce feedback on this work online.
- Teachers may ask students to upload files or photos to Google Classroom, and it will be marked and returned to students.
- Work completed through online platforms such as Hegarty Maths and The Everlearner will be automatically assessed and teachers may also provide individual or whole class feedback on this work.
- Assessments and tests are set in Google Classroom following the School's Assessment Calendar.

Given the nature of the tasks, the type of feedback teachers can provide may not take the same format as marking an exercise book. Teachers are encouraged to ensure, when they set assessed work, that it is designed in such a way that meaningful feedback may be provided.

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 pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, 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. The SEND and Pastoral teams make weekly phone calls to families, and, where possible, ensure that students and families are still able to access support from external agencies.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual students need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, students should continue to access remote learning through Google Classroom, if they are well enough to do so. Students should login to Google Classroom at the same time as their timetable lesson. Teachers will upload the work before the lesson is due to start so that students can complete their class work at the same time as other students who are in the lesson. This will help to reduce disruption to students' learning if they are working remotely from home.

For example, if a student has English period one on Tuesday, the student should access their English Google Classroom during the normal lesson time and complete the class work set by their teacher.

Completed work needs to be uploaded into Google Classroom, and it will be marked by the class teacher (unless work has been set using an online platform such as Hegarty Maths or The Everlearner).

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

Live lessons will be available for 6th Form students. However, live lessons may not be available for isolating students in KS3 and KS4 (this will be reviewed when the school reopens fully).

If parents and carers have any questions regarding remote learning or if they require any additional support contact Mrs. Rogers, Deputy Headteacher and Senior Leader with overarching responsibility for remote education, by using the email address below:

curriculum@weatherheadhigh.co.uk