

# The Bromfords School and Sixth Form College



## Remote education provision: information for parents

**Date of Last Review:** 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

**Associated Documents:** Policy for Remote Teaching and Learning (School Closure)

## **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 if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home or where individual pupils are self-isolating.

### **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 the school is open but a student or groups of students are isolating for reasons linked to COVID-19 the class teacher must provide work for the students in their classes via Edulink and/or Microsoft Teams within 24 hours of the missed lesson having taken place. Where an entire class is absent from school, the class teacher should be delivering a live lesson remotely via Microsoft Teams in the normal timetabled slot.

### **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 but clearly some allowances need to be made for practical subjects including PE, Art and Technology. Staff teaching these subjects may set tasks or projects for students to complete at home. Examples might include following an online workout routine in PE or cooking a set recipe at home in Food Technology.

To be engaging, online lessons are likely to draw on a variety of resources, including video or narrated power-points where appropriate.

Most sessions should be a balance of teacher interaction and student tasks as would be the case in the classroom. A 'live' lesson does not necessarily mean the teacher is directly delivering content to students throughout. For example, it may be that a teacher sets up the lesson, ensures students understand the work set and then then gives time for the students to complete tasks before bringing the lesson back together for a plenary.

## **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 five to seven hours a day. This includes five hours of live lessons plus independent study/homework. For students in Years 10, 11, 12 & 13 the seven hours should be considered to be a minimum expectation.

In September we introduced staggered lunchtimes to help us maintain social distancing but during this phase of remote learning, the split lunchtimes have the ability to cause some difficulty for parents with children in different year groups trying to work from home and managing their own schedules.

To that end, whilst we are remote learning, from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 lesson start and finish times will be the same for all as follows:

P1 9.00am -10.00am

P2 10.00am -11.00am

Break 11.00am - 11.30am

P3 11.30am – 12.30pm

P4 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Lunch 1.30pm – 2.00pm

P5 2.00pm - 3.00pm

## **Accessing remote education**

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

Microsoft Teams is the school's main platform for delivering live lessons via Zoom however our Edulink platform may also be used to post student's work.

## **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:

Where possible, the school will remain open for children of key workers and for students supported with an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) or those who have a social worker. Access to ICT facilities will be made available.

The school has been allocated a small number of laptops for students eligible through Pupil Premium and we are now in a position to allocate these from January 2021.

If the two methods of support above still prevent your child from accessing remote education, then please contact their Head of Year so we can make alternative arrangements. This could include sending printed copies of work home to you.

## **How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

To be engaging, online lessons are likely to draw on a variety of resources, including video or narrated power-points where appropriate.

Most sessions should be a balance of teacher interaction and student tasks as would be the case in the classroom. A 'live' lesson does not necessarily mean the teacher is directly delivering content to students throughout. For example, it may be that a teacher sets up the lesson, ensures students understand the work set and then then gives time for the students to complete tasks before bringing the lesson back together for a plenary.

Students may at times be directed towards third party learning platforms such as Hegarty Maths, Tassomai in Science or Everlearner in PE.

Staff may also make use of the school's subscription to GCSE Pod or relevant and appropriate video clips on YouTube.

## **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 are expected to attend all live lessons as per the timings above.

If students are unable to attend a live lesson, then they should check Microsoft Teams or Edulink to catch up with work missed.

Parents can support the delivery of live lessons where possible by ensuring their child is working in a quiet space.

Parents should be aware that in most lessons, their child's microphone will be switched off by default and the camera will be switched off by default in all lessons.

Parents should not join in the live lesson.

The live online lesson is a classroom and the same school behaviour and discipline policies apply to this environment.

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

Staff will take a register for all live lessons. If your child is absent then the work will be posted on Microsoft Teams and Edulink to enable them to catch-up. As all parents have access to Edulink, this will be available for you to view.

If a student misses a sequence of lessons in a subject, the class teacher may contact you to discuss their concerns and try and offer support if required.

If your child is not engaging across a number of subjects, your child's Head of Year will contact you.

### **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:

Staff will use a variety of mediums for feedback. This may include verbal feedback or feedback using the chat feature within the online classroom. Staff will also award Achievement Points to students for good effort or engagement within a live lesson.

Additionally staff may ask students to submit work via Teams or eMail following a lesson. Some staff are also using Microsoft Forms or setting quiz based tasks on platforms such as Seneca Learning or Hegarty Maths.

Feedback on submitted work will be in line with the school's current marking and feedback policy; for specific pieces of work such as including assessments, staff will aim to give feedback to the student within a week.

## **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:

Where possible, our Autism Provision will remain fully open to support the learning of these students. Where possible, the school will also remain open for children of key workers and for students supported with an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) or those who have a social worker. Access to ICT facilities will be made available.

The SEND Department have separate arrangements for supporting learners at home including regular video check-ins and online support from a Learning Support Assistant.

## **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?**

If the school is open but a student or groups of students are isolating for reasons linked to COVID-19 the class teacher must provide work for the students in their classes via Edulink and/or Microsoft Teams within 24 hours of the missed lesson having taken place.

Students should submit their work set to their class teacher via Microsoft Teams or using the school email for feedback.

## **Remote education and Staff Absence**

There may be occasions where a member of staff is unable to deliver a live lesson due to sickness or caring for a dependent.

In such circumstances above, the teacher will direct their class to work set on Edulink or Microsoft Teams. It may also be possible to direct affected students to attend another live lesson taught by a different member of staff which is covering the same content and skills