

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 require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

A student's first day 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 of students being sent home?

Where a student is individually self-isolating work will be set via Microsoft Teams by their normal classroom teacher.

Where a large group of students are sent home during the day as a result of being identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, their teachers will set work via Microsoft Teams for the rest of the lessons that day.

Students will follow their normal timetable of live lessons the following day and for the remaining self-isolation days. This will be delivered via Microsoft Teams and will be a combination of live, live beamed and assignment set lessons depending on numbers remote learning.

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 wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in practical subjects such as Physical Education, we will deliver the coursework/theory elements of the course where practical activities may be more problematic to teach remotely.

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:

Key Stage 3	5 hours live* lessons per day + up to 3 hours of structured independent work per week (homework)
Key Stage 4	5 hours live* lessons per day + up to 1 hour of structured independent work per day (homework)

*Live lessons are the normal method of delivery but are subject to external parameters such as connectivity issues or staff absence. Every attempt will be made to deliver live lessons and independent work will be posted via Microsoft Teams as an alternative where staff are not available.

Accessing remote education

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

Students access all online remote education via their normal Microsoft Teams. Where instructions may differ, students and parents will be emailed.

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:

All students have been surveyed to assess their ability to access remote provision on an individual laptop or tablet. Where a student does not have access to their own laptop or tablet, we have:

- A range of chrome books and DfE issued laptops to lend to students
- A small number of dongles to provide internet access
- Access to the DfE/providers scheme to increase data allocation

Please contact your child's Head of Year if you need support with access to remote provision.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Students will be taught live via Microsoft Teams. Staff continually explore new platforms to engage students with learning, including some of the following examples:

- Nearpod
- Kahoot
- Quizzes
- Class Notebook
- National Oak Academy
- GCSEPod
- Seneca

Students will be signposted to these platforms via their normal Microsoft Teams.

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?

All students are expected to attend all online lessons and form period and be present promptly. Registers are taken for each lesson within the first 10 minutes and both teaching and pastoral staff will contact any students who are not present online. Parents will also be notified. Students are expected to complete work within the lesson and will be marked for a follow up phone call via our teaching team if they are not contributing their work.

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

Staff check engagement with work every lesson and parents are informed immediately if there are any issues, in line with the PD addendum.

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:

Students will receive verbal feedback throughout each lesson and written feedback on their work in line with the academy marking and feedback policy for each subject.

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:

All students who are struggling to access remote provision independently will be offered a place in school as part of our onsite provision for the children of Critical Workers or those deemed to be 'Vulnerable'. This includes students who are 'digitally vulnerable'. This includes all students on our SEND register where parents notify us of their concerns. If you do not wish your child to attend school but require additional support please contact our SENCo – SEND@bbgaacademy.com

Remote education for self-isolating students

Where individual student 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?

Students who are individually self-isolating work will be set via their normal Microsoft Teams in line with the normal curriculum. This may be via assignment but where possible will involve live content via a 'blended beamed' lesson.