

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.

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

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?

Work will be provided from the first full day that your child is at home. This will be in a format that is most easily accessible for your child. For some, this will be a paper learning pack that will be posted out to you, delivered by school staff or emailed. For others, this will be learning via Edmodo, which all of our secondary students are familiar with. It may also be a blend of the two.

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 aim to 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, some of our children are very reliant on routine and do not associate home with school work, so teachers will liaise with parents to see how learning can be supported at home.

For KS3 and 4 students, the planned curriculum in most subjects will remain the same, mainly through Edmodo, with learning packs sent home for children who do not have computer or internet access.

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:

<p>Primary school-aged pupils</p>	<p>We expect Primary pupils to complete 1-2 hours of learning a day. Ideally, this should be broken down into smaller chunks of learning rather than extended periods of time (e.g. half hour focused learning at a time). We also expect practical play and other social skills based activities will also need to take place. All expectations are flexible and dependent on the individual needs of the pupils.</p>
<p>Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year</p>	<p>We expect KS3 pupils to undertake 2-3 hours of home learning a day. This time should be broken down into manageable chunks for pupils (e.g. 45 minutes of focused learning at a time maximum, but most students will manage around 30 minutes at time). Ideally opportunities for social skills based activities should be also be incorporated into the day. All expectations are flexible and dependent on the individual needs of the pupils.</p>
<p>Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year</p>	<p>We expect KS4 pupils to undertake 3-4 hours of home learning a day. This time should be broken down into manageable chunks for pupils (e.g. 45 minutes of focused learning at a time, or longer if working on a past paper to build up concentration skills needed for exams). Ideally, opportunities for social skills-based activities should be also incorporated into the day. All expectations are flexible and dependent on the individual needs of the pupils.</p>

Accessing remote education

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

We know that virtual teaching for our students is problematic in terms of access to computers at set times, pupil engagement in a virtual classroom and social interaction without close staff support. This is why Edmodo has been our choice, especially as it has been used prior to COVID-19. There has been information sent to parents, but if you require a refresher, or it is new to you, please email admin@reddishhallschool.co.uk

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:

Some pupils do not have access to technology, and for some households, where children require a high level of support to learn, working online is not possible without an adult sitting next to them. For these children, home learning packs will be delivered home by staff, with work collected at the same time to pass back to the teacher. Teachers will bear in mind how much independent learning each child can manage, and prioritise key skills, such as reading.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
 - textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
 - commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
 - Use of Edmodo, on which work will be set in accordance with pupils' usual timetable. Lessons can be uploaded on to this, and pupils can use this medium to communicate with the teacher and their teaching assistant.
- Some 1:1 teaching via Zoom where appropriate and there is staff availability as children access bespoke interventions.

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 hope that children engage with the learning set. In school, we know that a clear routine is important. We'd recommend that children maintain a similar routine as to when they're at school, getting up, dressed and starting learning at 9am, as they would in school. This makes returning to school easier. Our children often struggle with concentration, so we advise focus and movement breaks. Advice on these can be found on our website. We would hope that children would manage 2-3 hours a day of 'desk' learning, with time for practical activities, such as exercise and creativity, such as an art activity, cooking/baking, or going for a walk.

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

- Staff will make phone contact with home at least once a week, usually more frequently.
- Email and communication via Edmodo may happen on a more regular basis.

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:

- Work completed via Edmodo will be checked regularly by the teacher and teaching assistant
- Work completed on paper will be checked on a weekly basis when it is collected by staff delivering updated work, unless parents wish to photograph and email it to the teacher, or return it via mail.

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:

- All of our pupils have additional needs, and we aim to work with parents and carers to support learning, and our pupils' mental health needs.
- We understand that in some cases, children will not be able to carry out learning at home, in which case, teachers will support parents with what they can do, without the child being aware, or help parents prioritize activities that will reinforce prior learning.
- Our priority is to support with children's emotional wellbeing, and that of parents' too. We feel that the most important aspect is that we keep in touch and work together during what we know can be a very challenging time.

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?

This will be provided on a very similar basis, through work packs and Edmodo, depending on the child. For some subjects in KS3 and KS4, lessons may be uploaded immediately to Edmodo. For vocational based learning, suggestions may be given as to what that child can do given their personal situation and resources that are available.