

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 document.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

A student'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 students being sent home?

Although it might take up to 24 hours for all subject specific work to arrive in all Google Classrooms, access to 'Hegarty Maths', 'Bedrock Education' and our in-house 'Communication' tasks are readily available to all students with immediate effect.

'Communication' Google Classrooms are accessible and contain a range of Communication tasks. All login details for 'Bedrock' are posted in the relevant 'Communication' Google Classroom for each year group. They are located at the bottom of the stream and the task is entitled 'Bedrock Vocabulary - Login Details and Guidance.'

Any issues with access to 'Hegarty Maths' please contact:

chris.malkin@johnspence.org.uk

Any issues with access to 'Bedrock' or the 'Communication' tasks please contact:

david.gibson@johnspence.org.uk

Any issues with Google Classroom please contact: password@johnspence.org.uk

Additionally, we also recommend that students may pick lessons of interest from the vast array of materials made available on [Oak National Academy](#).

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 may need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in practical subjects such as music or technology we accept that not all equipment and resources used in school may be readily available at home.

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 such as research, reading and writing) will take students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 3 and 4	5 hours each day
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Accessing remote education

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

'Google Classroom' is our primary platform. The 'G Suite' that hosts this application is accessed by clicking on the 'G Suite' tab at the top of our school webpage.

All students in all year groups are required to be logged into their timetabled Google Classrooms from 9am each morning until 3pm each day. Attendance at each lesson is essential (unless the student is unwell and therefore unable to attend). The Google Classroom the student attends should match their timetabled lesson on each day.

It is possible that, on occasion, students may be directed from Google Classroom to another platform such as Oak National Academy, Bedrock or Hegarty Maths.

Any issues with Google Classroom please contact: password@johnspence.org.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 students may not have suitable online access at home.

We have distributed over 200 laptops to students so that they can effectively access remote learning. Please contact the school office if you require a device. Please note that if you have more than one child you can be issued more than one device. Your child will really struggle to learn effectively only using their phone.

School office: 0191 296 1432

How will my child be taught remotely?

We feel a variety of approaches are important to engage students. We use a combination of the following approaches to teach students remotely:

- JSCHS teacher recorded lessons (video/audio) over PowerPoint/activities;
- Live lessons (online lessons) delivered from John Spence teachers.
N.B. Google Meet would be the platform for this and Meeting links would be found in Google Classroom;
- Published worksheets, questions, PowerPoints or tasks that require a student's response. N.B. Found on Google Classroom and accessed via Google Docs, Slides or Forms;
- Reading texts that students have at home or we have posted home;
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences;
- Oak National Academy (or equivalent) recorded lessons;
- Short-term project work and/or internet research activities.

In all these instances, the lesson is delivered on Google Classroom at the same time the class would usually have the lesson on their timetable.

It is important to note that regardless of the approach, the teacher will open Google Classroom as the lesson is delivered and stay "live" during the course of the lesson in order to engage, support and encourage students with their learning.

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 in all year groups are required to be logged into their timetabled Google Classrooms from 9am each morning until 3pm each day. Attendance at each lesson is essential (unless the student is unwell and therefore unable to attend). The Google Classroom the student attends should match their timetabled lesson on each day.

We expect the students to make every effort to attempt the work set and then remotely hand in work as appropriate. In most cases, a document or photo evidencing the work completed should be submitted on Google Classroom. As in class, students may not always receive feedback on this work but their engagement will be registered and monitored. Any concerns will be communicated with you.

As a parent or carer, your primary role in your child's education is to ensure your child has the means to access the work and an area to work in; it is the teacher's role to teach them. If you feel the work set requires excessive parental engagement, then please contact the school.

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

Once in the Google Classroom, the expectation is that the student notifies the teacher that they are in attendance and a register will be taken. The teacher is present online throughout each timetabled lesson to support the class with their learning. The teacher will consider both attendance and task submission before completing our in-house 'Lesson completion/engagement' monitoring document. This document is completed on a lesson by lesson basis and is then monitored by the pastoral team. Contact with home is made when deemed necessary.

You may choose to notify us if you are aware that, for whatever reason, your child will be unable to attend lessons.

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:

Once your child has completed a substantive piece of work their teachers may provide feedback. In this instance, teachers may return work with their comments; share a 'good' model answer or mark scheme for self-assessment; send a short email or make a feedback comment in a stream/thread. Students may receive an email notification to say their work has been 'returned'.

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:

1. Differentiated and/or modified work as appropriate;
2. Key-worker contact;
3. On-site provision as appropriate. When considering this as an option all parties must remain mindful of current government guidelines.

We would ask that you make contact with school should you have concerns about your child's ability to access set work.

Remote education for self-isolating students

Where individual students 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 at home and in school at the same time.

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

We will take every measure to ensure individual students self-isolating are taught a planned and well-sequenced curriculum with meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects. Wherever possible, this work will reflect what is being taught in school, however, where this is not possible (for example, in some practical lessons) alternative work is issued on these occasions. This work should still be relevant. All work will be published via Google Classroom.

It is also worth noting that in this scenario where only a proportion of the class are self-isolating, it is possible that the teacher will not be able to provide 'live' feedback and support on Google Classroom (as they will be with a class in school at the time) but they will endeavour to provide feedback in a timely manner.

If, for any reason, work is not provided via Google Classroom within 24 hours of your child's first day of absence then please notify the school. As previously stated, 'Bedrock', 'Hegarty Maths' and our 'Communication' tasks are always readily available for student access from the outset.