



Wyvern  
Academy  
*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

# Remote Learning Provision: Information for Parents and Carers

September 2023

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## **Remote learning provision: information for parents and carers**

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers, about what to expect from remote learning if local restrictions require entire cohorts to remain at home.

### **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. Pupils should expect communication via their school email account which outlines how the transition to a remote curriculum will be managed.

Where we can anticipate a school closure in advance of guidance requiring us to close, in-class support, assemblies and tutor periods will be utilized to help students plan for this eventuality. It is hoped that this forward planning in school will mean a transition to a remote curriculum is as smooth as possible for all learners.

### **What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?**

In the initial days of remote learning, pupils will be provided with learning resources to support them in following their usual timetable. OneDrive, as part of the Microsoft Office 365 suite, will become their remote learning 'desk' and all pupils will be emailed links to their OneDrive class folders by their subject teachers. Their classwork will be available in these folders daily in line with their school based timetable. All the resources mentioned will be available on the school website in a 'School Closure' tab in the event that the school is required to close.

During this time, pupils will be expected to engage with all online learning available and if they are unable to do so, they must inform their subject teacher or their form tutor of any issues by email. A following up call from the Attendance Team may then be deemed necessary.

If pupils are having difficulty accessing online provision, they can contact school on 01325 351377 or email their tutor if they are able to so that the relevant staff members can be informed to help with the problem.

If this does not help and they cannot access their school emails and the Office 365 suite, please email the school office on, [wva.enquiries@consilium-at.com](mailto:wva.enquiries@consilium-at.com), stating your child's name, year group and the nature of the problem. Appropriate technical support will be allocated.

If there are no IT facilities to access your child's remote learning in the family home, please email our Attendance Team by calling 01325 351377 or emailing [Zoe.Grant@consilium-at.com](mailto:Zoe.Grant@consilium-at.com)

## **Will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?**

As staff and pupils are following their normal school timetables while pupils are being educated remotely, they will be taught the same curriculum as they would be if they were in school, wherever possible and appropriate. However, certain subjects will need to be adapted to suit remote learning more than others and as such, there may be more demonstrations and videos and less practical activities in some areas (for example science, music and PE).

Through a blended approach to remote learning ( for example, access to a range of recorded lessons, real time lessons via Teams and educational software and platforms such as GCSEPod), the aim is that pupils see very little change to their curriculum during a period of remote learning. New content will continue to be delivered to pupils as per the curriculum plan, however the sequencing of this may be adapted slightly in certain areas to support remote learning; for example in science, practical activities may be postponed until pupils return to school, or teachers may deliver the activities in the form of a demonstration, or real time lessons.

Pupils will continue to be assessed during their time studying remotely, however this may take a different form than if the pupils were at school. Pupils may be assessed via online quizzes, assignments or questioning during real time teaching.

During this period of time, feedback is even more important to our pupils. Feedback will be sent back to pupils in a range of forms, but every pupil will have a response with feedback from their subject teacher at least weekly in all core subjects. This will be digitally facilitated, through a whole class feedback system or via real time lessons.

## **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 remote learning (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Pupils not working towards formal qualifications this academic year	Pupils will complete work for an amount of time that is equivalent to the time they would spend on their core learning at school. This will equate to a minimum of 5 hours learning time per day, which may include a mix of assignments, recorded lessons, and live teaching through real time lessons.
Pupils working towards formal qualifications this academic year	Pupils who are working towards formal qualifications will complete work which is in line with the time they would spend on core learning at school. This time commitment will be more than for other pupils, due to revision requirements and further assignments to support preparation for end of year examinations.

## Accessing remote learning

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

As mentioned previously, Wyvern Academy will provide a blended approach to remote learning to ensure that all pupils have the ability to access their education. It is vital that they have this variety of learning styles to ensure that it is sustainable. Pupils will have access to additional resources, assignments and lesson instructions on the following platforms:

- Office 365 (OneDrive [storage of class folders], Outlook [school emails])
- GCSEPod

Where particular subjects use other platforms, pupils will have been shown these in their classes and will already use these as a matter of normal homework setting (for example, BandLab in Music and MyMaths in Mathematics).

If pupils need support to access any of the above platforms, they should contact their class teacher using the school email system and the class teacher's full name eg. [firstname.surname@consilium-at.com](mailto:firstname.surname@consilium-at.com)

Pupils will have access to recorded lessons which include voice and/or video narration, real time (live lessons) and online platforms. For real time lessons, pupils will access live lessons via Teams. A guide will be made available on the website to support students and parents in accessing live lessons.

Real time lessons will be used in a variety of ways when deemed necessary by the class teacher. These will take part within the timetabled period of time and may take the form of:

- Whole lessons
- Starts and/or ends of lessons
- 'Drop-in' sessions
- Small group sessions as part of the feedback process
- Half lessons (for example, to impart new knowledge, instigate a task and then allow pupils to complete the task independently off the Zoom call)

It is important to note that these real time lessons will be used as a teaching tool to ensure the academic progress of your child and as such, will not take place every day but instead will be used when deemed as an appropriate strategy by your child's teacher. This will ensure that pupils take these lessons seriously and that the level of quality can be sustained.

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:

- Pupils will be surveyed and those without access to a laptop or tablet will be

- provided with access to a device where possible;
- If there is still an issue with access, or circumstances have changed, parents can contact the school at any point;
- We recognise some pupils may need to access online learning via a small screen e.g. a mobile phone or tablet, in this case pupils may complete assignments on paper and upload photos and send via email to their class teacher;
- If a pupil does not have access to the internet at home, please contact school, where an internet dongle may be provided

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

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

- Recorded lessons with voice/video narration (saved in their class folders on OneDrive)
- Online platforms (GCSEPod, Oak National Academy and those listed above for particular subjects)
- A range of real time teaching sessions (as detailed above)
- Long-term projects or assignments.

When teaching pupils remotely, we are committed to:

- Providing a rich curriculum in-line with the school's curriculum vision;
- Providing support and guidance to pupils who need help with their learning;
- Setting and teaching well-planned and engaging lessons;
- Assessing the extent to which pupils understand the work that they are completing 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?

It is expected that pupils will engage with remote learning in the same way they would engage with learning in school. Pupils are expected to engage, as much as possible, in-line with their usual timetable. Parents can support this by ensuring you have access to your child's timetable, if you need support with this please contact your child's form tutor by email.

Parents and carers can further support their children's engagement by;

- Establishing routines for remote learning e.g. no mobile phone during school hours, designated lunch times etc.
- Where possible, allowing pupils to find a quiet space to complete their remote learning.

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

Wyvern Academy has systems in place to monitor student engagement, and if this is considered a concern, parents and carers will be informed immediately. The weekly pastoral welfare telephone calls completed by the pastoral team, including your child's Form Tutor, will always inform you of your child's engagement levels. Engagement with every lesson is monitored daily on a lesson by lesson basis, and overall engagement is monitored weekly.

If pupil engagement is deemed a concern in a particular subject, contact will be made by the class teacher initially by email to check for any particular problems and then parents and carers may be contacted if this does not raise engagement.

If pupil engagement becomes a concern across a number of subjects this will be highlighted to you by your child's Head of Year via a telephone call.

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, among many others. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Immediate feedback through questioning and quizzing if in a real time lessons;
- Online quizzes or assessments from which pupils may receive immediate feedback;
- Providing individual or whole class feedback on work submitted electronically.

Pupils will receive some form of feedback on their work and engagement at least weekly, with the exception of those subjects studied once per fortnight where it will be fortnightly.

## **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 some pupils, for example those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access remote learning without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and will work with parents and carers to support those pupils in the following ways:

- Each lesson will have verbal narration to help clarify instructions and expectations and read texts out where necessary for pupils;
- Daily TA support will be provided by telephone call to those pupils on the SEND register;
- Clear tracking of engagement of SEND pupils and immediate contact with parents and carers where engagement is a concern;
- Guidance of tools to help with accessibility is available on the school website under the 'Remote Learning' tab.

In addition to the above forms of support, those pupils who receive intervention in the SEND department will continue as normal (for example, with IDL work being set, ELSA sessions remaining in place via telephone or Teams, or one to one support via Teams or telephone call).