Remote Learning Provision: Information for Parents and Carers

September 2021

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Contents

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 (or pupil team bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see Page 9.

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 however, pupils have had IT support, assemblies and tutor periods to help them 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 it can possibly be for you and your child.

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 have been 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 in this document can be found on the 'Remote Learning' tab on the Wyvern Academy website, available here.

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 the issues by email. A following up call from the Attendance and Family Welfare 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.

All pupils have made a note of all necessary login details in their school planner on Page 14.

If this does not help and they cannot access their school emails and the Office 365 suite, please email Mr Redmond using Matthew.Redmond@consilium-at.com stating your child's name and year group.

An audit of IT facilities in the home was completed during the Autumn term (2020-2021) and facilities made available, however if there are no IT facilities to access your child's remote learning in the family home, please email our Attendance and Family Welfare team using Zoe.Grant@consilium-at.com

Following the first few days of remote learning, 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 Zoom and educational software and platforms such as SAMLearning and 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 subjects, with the exception of those studied once per fortnight where it will be fortnightly, with feedback given in written form at least fortnightly, with the exception of those studied once per fortnight where it will be every four weeks. 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 evidence of final grades in the Summer of 2021.

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 356 (OneDrive [storage of class folders], Outlook [school emails]

- SAMLearning

- 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, Microsoft Teams in Computing and MyHistoryHomework in History).

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)

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 Zoom and pupils have been shown how to use these platforms. A guide will also be made available on the website as these become used more and more.

Real time lessons are being 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 have been surveyed and those without access to a laptop or tablet have been provided with access to a device;

- 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, SAMLearning, 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 Pastoral Leader 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 Zoom, or one to one support via Zoom or telephone call).

Remote learning for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, how remote learning is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils concurrently both at home and in school.

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

Where individual pupils are self-isolating, it is still expected that they will follow their normal timetable and access their lessons for the day via OneDrive on Office 365. These lessons may not have the narration or video to support them, but will have clear written instructions to help with accessing their normal, taught lesson. Online platforms listed earlier will also be used to supplement the curriculum.
There may not be the same capacity for real time lessons as when the whole cohort is learning remotely, but in some cases self-isolating pupils will be able to join their class via Zoom. The pupils will be informed of this via email with an invitation sent to them for their timetabled lesson.
The expectations for pupils who are self-isolating are the same as if they were in school, or if the whole cohort was learning remotely, as detailed earlier in this document and work should be submitted daily in accordance with their timetable.

If you require any further information regarding any guidance detailed in this document, please do not hesitate to contact school via the usual channels.