

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 where national or 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?

Students will already have a physical copy of their Knowledge Organiser, a timetable and continued access to Google Classroom. Where identified or requested, paper-based work packs will be posted home. Alternatively, this can be emailed home more immediately upon request. Student registers for Google Classroom will be checked and updated to ensure they are invited to and can access all subject and tutor group work. Work will be set by teachers to reflect in school teaching that follows the current curriculum.

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, practical subjects such as Science, Design Technology, Performing Arts, Art, Computing and Physical Education will be adapted to be delivered 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 pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 3, 4 and 5	5 hours
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Accessing remote education

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

All work is set via our online learning platform which is Google Classroom and G Suite for Education (Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets etc)

We use Google Meet for Live Lessons and Support Sessions.

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:

To find out more information on eligibility for a laptop or chromebook device, please contact admin@stcm.torbay.sch.uk or via your child's tutor. We will then make contact with you to arrange this if your child meets the criteria. Devices will be delivered or arrangements made for collection in school through your child's Head of Year.

Routers and dongles are not available, but please inform the school if you do not have the internet to access at home so that we can help to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can complete our digital survey in the event of a school-wide closure, which will be emailed to them. Alternatively, contact the school via admin@stcm.torbay.sch.uk or your child's tutor to make a request. We will then send out a paper work pack which will reflect the current curriculum being delivered.

Students can submit their work via Google Classroom, sharing with teachers through Google Drive or via email. Alternatively, work can be arranged to be returned to school, where it will be scanned and distributed to teachers. Students can also bring in their completed work to teachers upon their return to school.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching (online lessons)
- Live support sessions (online sessions)
- Recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Independent learning tasks set through our online learning platform Google Classroom
- Textbooks and reading books issued to pupils to access at home
- Need to Know Booklets
- Sparx Maths online
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences such as BBC Bitesize
- Coursework and NEA projects, under guidelines, at KS4 and KS5

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?

Guidance for students:

- You will receive work through Google Classroom, or through a paper-based work pack. You are expected to:
- Do the work for all of the subjects you take, aiming for 5 hours of learning per day, plus home learning.
- Use your daily timetable to identify your learning for each day that you are working from home.
- You should work in Google Classroom or the Google Education workspace and share your work back with your teacher via Google Classroom or Drive.
- Follow subject specific instructions that have been given, including for tests and assessments
- Attend where possible the Live Lessons and Support Sessions offered each week.
- You should work on paper if you don't have computer / internet access to Google Classroom. You can take a photo of your work and share it with your teachers via Google Drive or via email. Alternatively, work can be arranged to be returned to school, where it will be scanned and distributed to teachers.
- Complete all work on time so that your teacher can still check it as part of their usual book check schedule in each subject area.
- Make sure all of your work is clearly labelled with a title, date and your name. Doing your work neatly means that you should be able to insert it into your exercise book when you return (if you are working on paper).
- Work on Need to Know Booklets, SPARX maths and other subject specific home learning content to support your learning.
- Making revision notes, cue cards and diagrams are great ways to extend your learning, as is revisiting learning from previous lessons

Parents can support their child by helping to follow the guidance below.

Tips for working from home:

- Create a workspace where you can focus on your work - this might be on the kitchen table or another suitable desk in the house.
- Put away and turn off distractions such as mobile phones, televisions, games consoles and stereos.
- Persevere and find alternative methods of approaching your work if you get into difficulty - have that growth mindset that you can succeed!
- Use these timings to structure your day:
 - **Ready to Learn time:** 08.45am - 09.20am - use this time to prepare and plan your day
 - **Lesson 1:** 9.20am - 11.10am
 - **Break:** 11.10am - 11.30am
 - **Lesson 2:** 11.30am - 1.15pm
 - **Lunch:** 1.15pm - 1.45pm
 - **Collective Worship:** 1.45pm - 2.05pm - you can view the collective worship video on your year group Google Classroom
 - **Lesson 3:** 2.05pm - 3.05pm
- Students can contact teachers at school through official channels (ie, school email account, Google Classroom or by phoning/emailing admin) for help, but anticipate that an instant reply may not be possible - we'll do our best to get back to you, so in the meantime try working on another task or subject.

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

Tutors will send a weekly email home to parents to check on wellbeing and summarise their child's subject engagement from feedback given by teachers. Teachers will award positive praise points through Classcharts. If there are concerns about your child's engagement this will be communicated by tutors, Head of Year or through the School's Welfare and Pastoral team.

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:

Teachers will offer feedback through Google Classroom to students individually, as part of whole class feedback, through self-marking quizzing tools, through live lessons and support sessions.

Students will receive feedback on their work produced if completing work online. If students are completing paper based work, feedback will be relayed via tutors or by classroom teachers once the work has been submitted.

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:

Students with EHCPs are encouraged to attend our in school provision where possible. If a family chooses not to take a school place, a full risk assessment will be conducted to determine if the school will grant a leave of absence. Students will be supported by a member of our learning support team to enable them to access their learning. The learning support team also delivers live support sessions and online small group work for children on SEND support. The learning support team will also contact home and work with parents and students with SEND needs, who are unable to access a school place. SEND students are able to request Chromebooks via admin@stcm.torbay.sch.uk or via their tutor if required.

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?

Students will have their Need to Know Booklet and a subject paper work pack, if requested, which reflects the curriculum delivery for the half term in the first instance. Alternatively, this can be emailed or posted home. Students will be invited to join Google Classrooms for all of their subjects and work will be set by their teacher to reflect in school teaching. Where possible, the school may offer remote live lessons and support sessions.