



# Remote Learning: Information for parents and carers

# Remote education provision: information for parents and carers

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 pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

We aim to ensure that we are continuing to provide a holistic approach in access to education whilst your young person is completing home learning. We value the feedback we receive from students, parents and carers; using this feedback we endeavor to provide alternative options to support the continuation of learning at home. If you have any concerns with the information contained within this document and how that relates to you, please contact your Advance Practitioner in order to review your particular requirements.

## 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 young person expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of students being at home?**

Students will have received work packs which have learning resources to complete. Students are required to recap on these resources. If these resources have been misplaced or damaged, please contact your young person's Advance Practitioner to request a replacement.

### **Following the first few days of remote education, will my young person be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in college?**

We are aiming to teach the same curriculum as we do in college wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations to some subjects. For example, subjects relating to employability such as work skills and enterprise and sport.

Your young person should be able to see the majority of their usual timetable within their Microsoft teams account and can access this using their individual username and password. This will be sent to you via letter.

## Remote teaching and study time each day

**How long can I expect work set by the college to take my young person each day?**

This is dependent on the young person and their specific support needs, and availability of family members to support the learning. Our usual college day is set out into AM and PM sessions. If parents and carers would like to stick to a time frame, we would suggest completing the work set on the corresponding day. For example, if your young person has Art Monday am, trying to complete this work during the morning on a Monday. This will help to ensure your young person keeps up to date.

## Accessing remote education

**How will my young person access any online remote education you are providing?**

We use the following digital platforms for delivery and assessment of learning:

Microsoft Teams

Nearpod

Zoom

Youtube

**If my young person does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?**

We recognise that some young people may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support our students to access remote education:

- We will issue loans of electronic devices, such as a laptops, for students who require these to access their home learning remotely. If you have not already had a discussion with your Advanced Practitioner in relation to electronic devices and access methods, please contact them so that we can provide further guidance and support. You will be required to complete a loan agreement form. This form will be emailed or sent to you prior to the equipment being loaned. On receipt of the form being completed, devices will be issued. We will arrange a suitable method of collection with you. If you require assistance, we can deliver the laptops to your young person at home.
- We currently don't offer the ability to lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example, routers or dongles), however are in the process of reviewing this.
- We are trying where possible to minimise the need to have to send physically completed work back to the college. Instead, we would prefer photographs and if possible, videos of your young persons' achievements. In the cases where work is required to be submitted, we would require parents to send this back to the college. Depending on the length of time at home, it may be that work could be brought back with the young person on their return to college. Expectations on what needs to be returned will be explained by the tutor who has set the work.

## **How will my young person be taught remotely?**

We use the following remote teaching methods:

- Electronic: Workbooks, worksheets, Nearpod interactive presentations all uploaded to Microsoft teams
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers and therapists (e.g., workbooks, worksheets)
- Recommendations to websites
- Live communication sessions with integrated therapy from speech and language therapy team
- Physiotherapy at home visits (assessed on need-by-need basis)
- Physiotherapy exercise programmes via live video
- Integrated therapy and education support guides written by therapy staff, such as strategies for the home and total communication for the home.
- Bookable clinic sessions with members of the SALT, OT, PBS and Physiotherapy team

## **Engagement and feedback**

### **What are your expectations for my young persons' engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?**

We expect your young person to engage with and complete their learning at home. It is important for your young person to continue to develop skills so that they do not fall behind their peers or their expected level of progress.

We value the incredible commitment required from families; making time to provide support your young person to engage in their home learning. We expect your young person to complete all their work. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families and recognise that this is not always possible especially as parents and carers are often juggling home learning and family and work commitments. We ask, please do as much as you can do, complete as much work as you can complete, and keep communicating with us. Send photos of completed work, reply to tutors' comments via Microsoft Teams and keep us in the loop.

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

We will be completing weekly engagement reviews of Microsoft teams to check on student engagement in their home learning. You will be contacted weekly by you AP who will check in with you and your young person regarding home learning.

Any levels of engagement which cause concern will be discussed with the parent/carer. We will work with you to identify any barriers and provide recommendations for ongoing support. We recognise the difficulties faced by families

and will plan according to the individualised needs of the student and family circumstances.

### **How will you assess my young persons' work and progress?**

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual students. For example, we use methods such as whole-class feedback during live sessions or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms may be used. We may also use verbal recorded feedback which is shared via Microsoft teams or email.

All achievement will be tracked against students' individual learning plans and yearly outcomes as set out at the beginning of each academic year.

## **Remote education for self-isolating students**

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

### **If my young person is not in college because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?**

There should be no difference in their offer from what is already listed within this document. However, there may not capacity to offer and facilitate live communications sessions on a weekly basis.