

George Abbot School - Remote education provision: information for parents/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 students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home and for how long each day

- We teach the same timetable remotely as we do in school.
- There are 4 lessons per day as per our school timetable.
- Lessons total 5 hours daily.
- Breaks have been adapted to allow for a longer break in the middle of the day to facilitate some fresh air and a break from screen time.
- 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, in Design Technology, lesson projects have been adapted as students will not have access to specialist equipment and in PE lessons have been tailored so that students can complete fitness activities independently rather than in a group.

Accessing remote education

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

- Students access their learning via Microsoft Teams.
- Additionally, we use Satchel One to record details of work and reminders for students.
- We also provide copies of lesson resources for students on the school SLE system.

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 take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:

- Parents/carers should contact your child's Head of Year if you have any issues with IT equipment and we will provide your child with a laptop wherever resources allow.
- Additionally, we are able to support families with internet connectivity and in extending mobile phone internet capability at no cost to individual families.
- Staff will not plan lessons that require students to print off lesson resources as we are aware that this may create difficulties with printers or ink.
- Students will submit any work they have been asked to complete remotely, using Microsoft Teams.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live remote teaching, via Teams.
- Video clips or sequences are utilised in some live lessons.
- After initial live teacher input, there will always be an independent task for students to complete – this will be reviewed at the end of the lesson with the teacher.
- Quick testing may also take place via Microsoft Teams to assess students' learning within lessons.
- Students will access tutor time at regular intervals.
- Students will be offered opportunities to reflect on their wellbeing and have breaks from the screen.
- Students will be able to access reading books from the school library by using the contact form on the Reading Hub:
<https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/reading-hub/>

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?

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Students should attend virtual lessons every lesson.
- Students will be set an independent task in the middle of every lesson.
- It is helpful if parents and carers can check their child has logged into their Teams lesson at the start and understands what to do for the independent task.
- If your child is struggling with the work, they should let the teacher know through the Teams chat or via email directly to the teacher.
- Parents and carers may also contact teachers for advice via staff email addresses.
- If parents and carers have pastoral concerns, they should contact their child's Head of Year or Inclusion Manager.

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

- A lesson register is taken on the school information management system every lesson of every day.
- Students not attending will be followed up by the year group pastoral team.
- You will be informed if your child is missing lessons.
- Parents/carers of students not submitting work when requested will be informed via the subject teacher in the first instance.

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:

- Students will submit work via Teams.
- Work will be marked and returned via Teams.
- Students will complete low-stakes tests and retrieval activities, providing feedback to the teacher who can then plan and adapt accordingly.
- Staff will continue with Parents' Evenings via a virtual platform and will complete assessment information, providing parents with reports in line with the school reporting calendar.
- Occasionally, additional 'homework' will be set. This will be noted on Satchel One, but will be infrequent during lockdown.

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:

- Most children with an EHCP or who are particularly vulnerable will be attending on site learning.
- On site, all students with special educational needs and disabilities will be supported by a Teaching Assistant.
- Students who are vulnerable or who have an identified SEN need who are learning from home may access small group interventions led by our SEN or pastoral staff via Teams.
- Our staff will ensure that students with special educational needs and disabilities, can access the lesson content through careful planning.
- Weekly welfare calls take place for those students identified as most vulnerable or who have an identified SEN.
- Some students in year 7 and 8 receive weekly reading interventions.
- Paired reading and Peer Mentoring work continues virtually.
- Our HSLWs continue to work with vulnerable students.
- Our pastoral team are engaged in regular wellbeing calls to ensure students are able to access work and technology.

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 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 be provided with all work via the Student Learning Environment.
- Lessons are uploaded to this virtual learning platform in advance and daily.
- Students will also be able to email staff to assist if they have any queries.
- If a whole class is isolating, then the teacher will teach the lesson live from school via Teams at the usual timetabled time.
- Absent sixth formers will also be able to access live lessons in school via Teams.