

Information about our remote education provision

The purpose of this document is to share relevant information with pupils and parents/ carers about how St Catherine's will provide remote education during periods of school closure or pupil isolation relating to coronavirus (COVID-19).

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 when national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

At St Catherine's, we continue to offer a full curriculum to students who are learning at home via the google classroom. A proportion of these lessons across the week will be delivered 'live', particularly core subjects such as English, Maths, Science and ICT. In addition to this all tutor times are live each morning as well as many assemblies to provide structure and participation in the school day and the PSHE curriculum that is included during these times.

Subjects such as technology, art, humanities and horticulture have a more project based approach and subject specialist teachers are contactable at all times to support these curriculum areas.

Group therapy sessions such as cookery and life skills by our Occupational therapy team continue. Each week a recipe will be given via the school newsletter for the following week to give parents or carers time to obtain the ingredients. 1:1 therapy sessions are also being offered via google meet, which includes occupational therapy and speech and language to ensure our students are being supported as per their EHCP requirements.

Therapists are also supporting socialisation google meetings with 2 or more students to support the mental health and wellbeing of our students who are isolating so that they can maintain contact and relationships with their peers and the wider school community.

Remote teaching and study time each day

There are 5 lessons available every day, except for Friday afternoon club time, to all students that attend St Catherine's, including those attending our sixth form.

Accessing remote education

How will your child access the remote education we are providing?

Our remote education delivery is via the google classroom and associated 'live' call platform. We are also able to produce work for students in any other format to support accessibility.

If your child does not have digital or online access at home, we will support by the following ways:

- We will issue laptops or chromebooks to families who require them - please contact the schools' Family Liaison Officer in the first instance.
- We can signpost families to information around increasing internet data that have been published nationally.
- If pupils require printed and/or specialist materials, we can provide these and either hand deliver or post to home.
- This work can also be collected or returned for marking and feedback in addition to students being able to return work via the google classroom.

How will your child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons);
- recorded teaching (recordings made by teachers in some curriculum areas);
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets);
- reading books pupils have at home;
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences;
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities;
- group and 1:1 therapy sessions.

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?

- Our expectation is that where possible, all students not attending St Catherine's are supported to access the full curriculum we have offered.
- In addition to this, we request that they access the therapy sessions also on offer to them via group and 1:1 work.
- We know that every child is individual and in some instances, this may not be possible – close contact with school and home will be maintained to support families achieve the best possible method of working.

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

- Teachers will be actively communicating with students on a daily basis and are on hand via the google classroom to support at all times during the school day.
- If a child has not accessed a live lesson as expected, contact will be made to check in.
- All class teams are making contact with offsite students and their parents/carers at least once a week to review the week and support with any areas of difficulty.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

- Teachers will be assessing and marking work in accordance with the school policy and in the same manner as if the student were attending.
- Work will be marked and feedback received on a daily basis to support sequential learning when work is completed online. If work is completed on paper copies this will be marked once returned.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate, remote education as outlined above will still be available in the same way.

If you have any questions in relation to our remote education provision then please do not hesitate to contact the school on (01983) 852722.