

Remote Education at St. Aloysius'



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

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

In the event of a closure or your child being sent home, classwork will be immediately available on Google Classroom. Unless otherwise communicated by the Headteacher, lessons will follow the normal school timetable and registers will be taken for each lesson.

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. Since we decided, as a school, to teach live during remote learning, it is possible for the planned curriculum to continue to be delivered whilst students are engaged with home learning.
- The curriculum plans that have been shared with all students at the start of the academic year, continue to be followed so that students can continue to track their learning in terms of what has been completed and what topics will be taught next.
- We do acknowledge that due to the nature of remote learning and the need to be more deliberate with checking for understanding, the time duration initially planned for each topic may now be slightly out of sync. Teachers will spend longer on completing topics in remote teaching.
- Teachers continue to follow the planned Scheme of work, but make use of more web-based resources that compliment remote learning. The applicable web-based resources are included in the schemes of work and will be used by all teachers in a subject.
- To enable students to engage better with teaching instruction at their own pace, included in live teaching will be a consolidation lesson, where pupils can work independently to catch-up or extend their learning, with the teacher providing limited guidance, but is available to assist students when they request it.
- Provision for Stretch, Challenge and Support has been built in to the schemes of work and teachers will continue to deliver live lessons to include activities/resources that stretch students' learning, provide suitable challenge for our more able students and provide support for those students that may need extra assistance with their learning in order to be successful.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Periods 1-4 are 50 mins each. Lunchtime 1 hour.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periods 5 and 6 are 40 mins long. • Homework will consist of 1 retrieval quiz in each subject per week – these should take between 5 to 15 minutes
Key Stage 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periods 1-4 are 50 mins each. Lunchtime 1 hour. • Periods 5 and 6 are 40 mins long. • Homework will consist of 1 retrieval quiz in each subject per week – these should take between 5 to 15 minutes
Key Stage 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periods 1-4 are 50 mins each. Lunchtime 1 hour. • Periods 5 and 6 are 40 mins long. • Independent study tasks lasting approximately 2 hours per subject per week will be set.

Accessing remote education

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

All classwork will be set on Google Classroom – a diverse and widely used online platform that enables students and teachers to interact in live time. Each subject they study has a virtual classroom where teachers will deliver live lessons, view student work live, track progress and give feedback.

Google Classroom is accessible on any web browser and is available to download as an App on any smartphone/tablet. Students can access Google Apps (Classroom, Drive, Gmail, Meet) securely using the school G-suite login provided by the school.

Homework will be set on Show My Homework for KS3 & KS4 students.

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 find online access at home a challenge. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- We endeavour to support students to access lessons from a Laptop or Desktop device to ensure they can fully access all lesson-resources without undue distraction.
- Pupils who do not have exclusive access to a Laptop or Desktop computer should contact enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk the following details are needed: Name of Student, year and form group, what device they are currently using.
- Pupils who are having connectivity issues should contact enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk - the following details are needed: Name of Student, year and form group, method of connecting to the internet (Tethering, Wi-Fi etc..), nature of the connectivity problem (Poor connection, too many users, not enough data etc..), Postcode.
- Pupils with IT issues should in the first instance contact chromebooks@school-sict.support

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- **live teaching (online lessons)** – this is the main approach we have decided to take as a school to ensure that students can access high quality instruction from their teacher while giving the teacher the opportunity to check understanding immediately.
- **recorded teaching (Video/audio recordings made by teachers)** – some teachers may use recorded teaching to enable students to engage with teacher instruction at their own pace or to review instruction as a form of revision.
- **textbooks and reading books pupils have at home** – in most subjects students either have access to their own hard copy of the course textbook or an online textbook. Any other required reading material will be available as an attachment or link on Google Classroom.
- **Exercise books** – most subjects require students to submit work online using Google Docs (or other Google Apps) which can be monitored live. However, in some subjects, such as Maths and Art where this is more difficult, students may be asked to use their exercise books to complete their work. Students will be expected to upload a picture of this work as required.
- **Independent practice** – just as in school, students are given sufficient time to develop their knowledge and skills independently following teacher instruction and guidance. Where students have several lessons in a week, they can expect to have one lesson which is entirely dedicated to independent practice. Once the register has been taken, students are expected to use the resources and guidance given to complete work and submit it by the given deadline on Google Classroom. (The teacher will be available during independent lessons to support and offer feedback)

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?

Expectations for pupils' engagement with remote education

- The normal school timetable should be followed including punctual attendance to tutor time in the morning at 8.30am, stopping for break and lunch at the normal times. However, lunch has been extended to one hour to give both staff and pupils screen downtime and a chance to exercise during lunchtime and P5 and 6 have been reduced from 50 to 40 mins.
- Full and undivided attention is required during lessons ensuring that, as far as possible, all distractions are removed from the learning environment.
- Live lessons require active listening and students will be asked to respond to questions using their microphone, typing in the chat or by completing in-lesson quizzes.
- Classwork is expected to be submitted by the deadline given on Google Classroom. Homework deadlines are communicated via Show My Homework as usual.
- Students are expected to respond to teacher feedback by correcting and improving their work using green font/pen.

Expectations of parental support, for example, setting routines to support your child's education

- While we recognise there are challenges to supporting your child's education at this time, we would encourage parents to support their child in maintaining routines as close as possible to normal.
 - Any reason why a student cannot engage in their learning at home should be communicated with the school via your child's form tutor in the first instance. Any expected absence from lessons must still be reported via the school absence line.
 - Ensure that your child has a consistent morning routine so that they are prepared for the day and ready to start lessons at 8.30am.
 - Support your child in maintaining a calm and focused learning environment, checking on them throughout the day as far as possible.
 - Monitor your child's submission of work on Google Classroom
 - Regularly monitor your child's attendance, behaviour and engagement with work on Go4Schools
 - Support your child in maintaining a healthy lifestyle:
 - Manage your child's screen time by limiting their use of devices/video games outside of lesson time.
 - Ensure they take daily exercise, get at least 8 hours of undisturbed sleep and eat a balanced diet.

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

- Teachers will monitor attendance by taking a register every lesson. Attendance will be reported to parents through Go4Schools. Absence will be reported to parents by text and where there are concerns, parents will be contacted by phone by their child's Tutor or Head of Year.
- Teachers will check student engagement with work by:
 - Checking understanding through live in-lesson questioning
 - Monitoring the completion of student work in the lesson
 - Monitoring the submission of classwork
- During remote learning we continue to report lack of engagement with classwork or homework on Go4Schools. Where there are concerns, parents will be contacted by their child's Teacher or Head of Department.

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

Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Students are set weekly online retrieval quizzes in all subjects. These are marked automatically and are used to identify misconceptions which are addressed in subsequent lessons
- Classwork is monitored on Google Classroom by the teacher. All classwork is checked for understanding and whole-class feedback is given in subsequent lessons.
- Individual feedback on classwork is provided on Google Classroom using either written or voice-recorded feedback. Students are expected to respond to feedback by correcting, improving and/or redrafting their work as directed.

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 an EHCP or those classed with 'complex needs' receive regular contact in the form of 1:1 meetings with their key worker each week and may receive additional welfare calls as agreed with the parents. All Annual Reviews will be conducted on time in an online format.
- Almost all of the interventions that ran in school are also running in a virtual format, including those from outside agencies for all students with an additional need.
- Additional calls and meetings for students struggling to access online learning materials or submit their work are available at the request of parents or staff.
- Alternative materials will be provided to those with the highest level of learning need where they cannot access the learning in the new format.
- Additional (virtual) meetings are available on request if a parent or teacher feels that additional support is required due to the change in circumstances.
- Teaching assistants are on hand to support writing tasks in some lessons.
- Advice is available as always by emailing the school SENCO who can advise parents on how to support their son at home, including supporting students with access to accessibility features.

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 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?

Where a student is required to self-isolate, classwork will be set for them to complete on Google Classroom. This will be available each morning and should be handed in by the deadline set. Where possible, teachers may live stream their lessons so students can access teacher explanation from home. This will be prioritised for students sitting public exams.

Unlike, remote learning when all students in the year group are at home, the teacher is unlikely to be able to respond to student comments immediately, however, students who are self-isolating should use the stream to communicate with their teacher or to ask for help.