



REMOTE LEARNING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Reference: Don Valley Academy
Issue Number: 1.0
Issue Date: January 2021
Review Date: January 2023
Approved by: ELT

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 if 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.

All information can be found on the academy website here www.donvalleyacademy.org.uk/online-academy

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.

Pupils will follow their normal timetable and access the normal curriculum. Pupils will follow a mixture of online lessons, extended and practical projects in line with the scheme of work they are following at the time.

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

Pupils should log into Microsoft Teams each day. Notices, assemblies and updates from Learning Managers, Senior Leaders and Tutors will be available in their Year Group Teams. It is important that pupils check these updates each day, in case there have been any changes to their timetable.

In the main pupils will then follow their timetable (found in their planner and Outlook and Teams Calendar).

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 like Art, Design and Technology, Music, Drama and PE.

These subjects will adapt their schemes of work to reflect that students are working from home, but the broad theme of the learning will still be in line with the same scheme of work they would be studying face to face in class.

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:

Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	5 hours plus any additional homework set by teachers in line with their normal schemes of work
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	5 hours plus any additional homework set by teachers in line with their normal schemes of work

Accessing remote education

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

All online learning is through our Online Academy on Microsoft Teams. Students can log into this through the academy website here www.donvalleyacademy.org.uk/online-academy

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:

- we will lend laptops or tablets to pupils, who do not have access to their own device. A consent form must be signed by parents.
- we will lend dongles to pupils who do not have access to the internet. A consent form must be signed by parents.
- Pupils will submit their assignments for marking and feedback through their class teams on Microsoft Teams. These deadlines will appear in their Outlook/Teams calendars

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- short-term project work and/or internet research activities

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?

Student Expectations

- We expect all students to be online daily within normal school times
- Students should attend and engage in all remote learning activities

Parent Expectations

- We expect all parent to ensure their child is attending remote learning in the same way we would expect students to attend face to face learning
- Parents should set clear routines that follow the normal academy day and the homework activities.

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

We will be monitoring attendance in remote learning each day. Teachers will be taking registers in every lesson and engagement in remote learning will be monitored by:

- Conversations with students
- Engagement in activities
- Submission of homework and assignments

We will take the following actions if a student does not engage in remote learning

- Telephone call/text home to parents

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:

- Assessment of learning in online lessons, and feedback will be given daily
- Assessment of homework and assignments, and feedback will be given in line with the academy homework and marking policy.

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:

- SEND – All students with SEND needs will have had their learning needs discussed and planned for prior to moving to remote learning. Individual plans will be put in place for each child depending on their need.

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?

Self-isolating students will follow their usual Academy timetable:

- Lessons will be a mixture of:
 - Blended Live teaching – where students join their usual lesson from home as it is being taught in the classroom
 - Tasks set to be completed during the lesson time. Teachers will be available to provided support via the chat function in their Class Team.
 - Pre-recorded lessons

Self-isolating students are expected to attend and engage in all remote learning activities.

Self-isolating students are expected to submit the work completed at home to their teachers to be assessed and for feedback to be provided.