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 if local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home, or if a student is having to self-isolate.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the event of being sent home?

Staff are updated daily as to which students are having to self-isolate. If staff have not yet received communication and begun to set work, then students are encouraged to visit the Remote Learning section where there are details on suitable tasks that can be done at any time.

We would also encourage students to continually revisit prior learning and to engage in wider reading.

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, with departments following their usual plans wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects, usually those of a practical nature. During these times and in the usual breaks and lunchtimes we encourage all students to eat, drink and exercise appropriately, including getting fresh air to support wellbeing.

Tutor time will also run as normal with the usual circle time, PSHE, learning conversations and quizzes taking place as other lessons.

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 learning will take students the same amount of time as the usual school day. Students are expected to access the live lesson or work via Microsoft TEAMS in line with their usual timetable including tutor time. Whilst live teaching is a valuable tool, there will be times where this is not possible, or it is more appropriate for students to work on something independently and then return to the computer to feedback or ask advice. Home learning will also be set if appropriate as it would when in school.

Accessing remote education

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

All remote Learning will be set via Microsoft TEAMS. There will be live elements where suitable, but this is not always appropriate or possible. Where this is the case, work will be uploaded into the assignments section of TEAMS, clearly labelled with the date and lesson.

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

We have supported all students where we have been made aware of an issue with accessing online learning. If your child is still unable to access remote learning due to a technical issue then please contact helpdesk@northleamington.co.uk and our ICT support team will assist if possible. If you have no internet access then please contact the school and make us aware as soon as possible, so we can support you.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- live teaching (online lessons) via Microsoft TEAMS.

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers).

- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences.

- Documents uploaded by teachers which are part of our schemes of learning.

- Where a live lesson is not appropriate and the member of staff is available for work, then they will be available via the chat function in TEAMS to answer questions about the work for the duration of the timetabled lesson.

- If your child is self-isolating and the majority of the class are in school, the teacher will not be able to monitor the chat as regularly, but may unmute the student to take part in the lesson verbally if appropriate.

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?

- We ask for parents/carers to support in our expectation that students attend live lessons and/or complete work in line with their usual timetable.

- We ask parents/carers to provide a quiet working space where students have IT access and space to complete work set without distraction.

- We ask parents/carers to ensure that students use online resources appropriately.

- TEAMS does not have a parent view but you can expect your child to be getting work for all of their appropriate timetabled lessons.

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

- Registers will be taken each lesson by subject teachers.

- If there is a pattern of non-attendance, then parents will be informed via groupcall, email or phone as appropriate and asked to support with ensuring students attend lessons.

- You can view your child's timetable via your INSIGHT account.

- If your child is unwell and unable to attend remote education, please report absence to school as normal.

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 receive feedback as part of live lessons through assessment for learning strategies such as questioning, and the use of the chat function to provide answers.

- Students will receive written feedback in line with our schemes of learning regardless of whether they are working in school or remotely.

- We are also developing the use of Microsoft FORMS for students to submit answers at the end of lessons which can demonstrate understanding to the teacher and depending on the question type these may receive immediate scores.

- Some teachers will utilise other freely available websites or software such as Kahoot quizzes, self-marking worksheets online etc.

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 those 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:

- We will offer places to all students with an EHCP whenever we are able to offer on-site provision for vulnerable learners to continue face to face support.

- For students with an EHCP in place or significant need, who are not able to attend school due to self-isolation, a TA will be provided who will support remotely each day by joining them in TEAMS lessons, differentiating work, completing wellbeing check, organisation etc.

- It is important that all students let the teacher know if they are not understanding by using the chat function in the same way they would raise their hand in class.

- We do encourage students to email questions to staff if it not appropriate for the chat function, but please be aware staff cannot see emails whilst conducting a live lesson and will often have a full day of lessons to deliver.

Safeguarding of students not in school

North Leamington School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all its students. For further information about Child Protection and Safeguarding, please refer to our website.

North Leamington School recognises that school is a protective factor for children and young people, and the current circumstances can affect the mental health of students and their parents/carers. Teachers at North Leamington School need to be aware of this in setting expectations of students' work where they are at home.

Children and online safety away from school

It is important that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns will be dealt with as per the NLS Child Protection Policy.

Online teaching should follow the same principles as set out in the North Leamington School Staff Code of conduct, Child Protection Policy and Acceptable Use Policy.

North Leamington School will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

Below are some expectations when staff deliver remote lessons:

- Communication with students and parents must take place using school email addresses only.

- Students must access TEAMS with their camera off and microphone muted.

- Students must not interrupt the teaching and learning for other students.

- Use of the chat function must be for teaching and learning purposes only. Students can only talk to the teacher not with other students.

- Language must be professional and appropriate

- Staff will only use platforms specified by senior managers and approved by our IT network manager / provider to communicate with students

- Staff must adhere to the principles outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy and the Staff Code of Conduct

- Students will be subject to the expectations outlined in the school's Behaviour and Engagement Policy including the use of praise, reward and sanctions for conduct which is contrary to our policy

All colleagues that interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns will be managed as per the Child Protection Policy.