

Remote education provision: information for parents and carers

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils, parents and 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 children 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.

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

- Work for pupils to complete immediately is available on the school website under the Home Learning Tab. Completed work should be emailed to homelearning@astreadearne.org.

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, however, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, at KS3: English, maths, science, history, geography, French, Spanish and IT are delivered through live teaching through Microsoft Teams, whereas art, music, drama, PE and prep are available as downloadable and printable work-books. At KS4: all lessons are taught through live teaching, except for core PE and prep which is available as downloadable and printable work-books.
- Our remote learning offer will be taught using Microsoft Teams and all pupils have been shown how to access this through their school account. For additional guidance and to watch a step-by-step video please click on the **Home Learning** tab on our school website.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

Remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 pupils approximately 5 hours per day. Live lessons will take place at the following times:

- **Session 1: 9.00am – 9.55am**
- **Session 2: 10am – 10.55am**
- **Session 3: 11.15am – 12.10pm**
- **Session 4: 12.45pm – 1.40pm**
- **Session 5: 1.45pm – 2.40pm**

Please note there is a 5-minute rest break between sessions to allow a small reduction in screen time and so pupils and teachers can join new sessions.

Accessing remote education

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

- Our remote learning offer will be taught using Microsoft Teams and through downloadable and printable work under our Home Learning tab on our school website.

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:

- Astrea is committed to ensuring every pupil has access to a laptop or other device so that they can continue to receive a high quality of education. If you would like to borrow a device from school please email lauramay.beynon@astreadearne.org to arrange collection. If suitable devices are not available, your child will be allocated a place in school during the national lockdown.
- Printed workbooks can be made available if you do not have online access. Please contact school reception by calling 01709 892211 to request printed copies. We would urge parents and carers to access a place in school so that children can attend virtually alongside their peers.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Live teaching via Microsoft Teams by teachers (online lessons).
- Downloadable and printable work accessed through our Home Learning tab on our website.
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers and posted home – these need to be requested by either calling school on 01709 892211, or by emailing Mrs Beynon at lauramay.beynon@astreadearne.org

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?

- Pupil registers are taken within the first 15 minutes of each lesson and if pupils are absent, parents and carers will be contacted by Heads of Year. Where necessary, home visits will take place. **Please note that attendance to online lessons is compulsory.**
- Parents and carers can support school by ensuring their child sticks to a routine and is prepared for learning promptly at 9am.
- Where it is possible, please sit with your child during the lesson so you can offer additional support.
- Ensure your child drinks plenty of water and has access to healthy snacks. Also, encourage them to take a screen break in between lessons and have a quick walk around the room.
- If you would like some additional reading around a particular topic, please email the teacher directly. Please call school if you require a teacher's email address on 01709 892211

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

- All lessons are recorded and the chat is saved to avoid inappropriate use. Where it is noted that children are not engaging with their work parents and carers will be contacted by either phone or email. If parents and carers are unavailable, or do not respond to school contact, doorstep visits will take place.
- Senior leaders and Heads of Curriculum will quality assure learning by attending lessons to ensure the lessons provided are equal to the experience that children would be having if they were attending school.

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:

- Fortnightly knowledge tests will allow teachers to identify misconceptions and gaps in knowledge and address these during lessons.
- Milestone assessment pieces (MAPs) will continue to be set and assessed in line with the planned curriculum, therefore children will have the same assessment of progress working virtually as they would have if they were in school. MAPs take place at least once per half term.

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:

- Children who access our Athena provision will continue to have a fully live taught curriculum online including all subject areas. Athena parents and carers will be contacted weekly to check that that the support being given is having a positive impact on their child's progress.
- Children with special educational needs accessing mainstream lessons will be monitored carefully by our SENCO with regular supportive phone calls taking place.
- All lessons are quality assured by senior leaders who join the lessons with a particular focus on ensuring lessons are accessible and appropriate for learners of all abilities. Where concerns are noted this is addressed directly with the teacher.

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 after they fully re-open because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

If your child is required to self-isolate when schools fully re-open, work will be set in the following ways:

- Pupils will access their timetabled lessons live from home using Microsoft Teams.
- Work will continue to be available on the school website.
- Work and pre-recorded lessons will be available on Microsoft Teams.
- All work will be assessed in the same way as if your child was attending school in person.

Children of key workers and vulnerable pupils

- All children who attend school in person will be accessing learning from the ICT suites in the same way as they would do if they were at home. Please email lauramay.beynon@astreadearne.org to request a place in school.

Free School Meals

- Guidance from the government allows schools to issue fortnightly £30 vouchers to families entitled to this provision. These vouchers will be emailed to parents and carers every other Monday, starting from Monday 18 January. Please ensure school has your most up to date email address. For any queries please contact richard.wordsworth@astreadearne.org.