



Meole Brace School

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Remote Learning Information for parents



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 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

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?

Pupils will be able to access work remotely via SMHW on the first day of absence due to COVID. It may take a day or two for all teachers to set work, but we will endeavour to provide some work. In the meantime, students can access free web sites eg BBC and Oak Academy, links can be found on our web site.

If paper packs are required parents/carers should contact school reception and these can be posted home.

If access to technology is required parents should contact school reception and the school will aim to support where possible.

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?

At Meole we will teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate.

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	We set work which should take students approximately 4-5 hours to complete daily. No additional homework will be set to avoid overload at home, however optional challenge work and exercise is encouraged and activities are on our web site.
Key Stage 4	We set work which should take students approximately 5 – 6 hours to complete daily. This will include some more traditional homework type activities and projects.
Remote Learning should mirror a student's usual timetable in both structure and time spent studying.	

Accessing remote education

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

All work will be provided through our digital platform Satchel One (SMHW).

Live lessons will be delivered through Zooms or Teams.

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:

- Electronic devices are issued to pupils who need them.
- Parents should request a digital device by filling in the Forms document emailed to all. Alternatively, parents can phone the school to request assistance.
- Dongles can be provided for students without internet access using the same mechanism (though supply is limited)
- Paper copies of work / student booklets can also be provided for students who struggle with online provision or do not have access. This is arranged by their HOY.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Students will be taught through a blended approach, which will include some live teaching. Live lessons will be part of a planned sequence of learning and may consist of a 15-20min teacher explanation, a review of prior learning, an opportunity for a Q&A session, completing a live quiz together or modelling using a PPT.
- Live teaching (online lessons) will be through Teams or Zoom.
- Whiteboard and visualizers to model through live teaching.
- Interactive tools like PADLET to further engage learners.
- Materials and lessons on free web sites such as BBC Bitesize may be used by teachers.
- Oak Academy providing recorded teaching made by teachers.
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets).
- Copies of textbooks and reading books for pupils to access at home.
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects eg Mymaths, Educake, Activlearn.
- More general websites eg Kahoot, Quizlet to 'test' students.
- Teacher produced PPT, which may include voice over to add explanation.
- Teacher produced u-tube clips and podcasts.

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?

- Clear expectations for pupils' engagement with remote education have been set out and discussed with students through tutor sessions and head teacher letters.
- PPT have been shared with students illustrating these expectations, which are also on web site.
- All pupils are expected to complete all work at all times. Leaders in the School and teachers are able to track engagement using SMHW and will communicate with parents and students if work is not completed. Students who are unable to complete work due to illness or other unusual circumstances should notify the school of that situation in the usual way.
- Parents/Carers should ensure students complete all work set according to their normal timetable. Parents should ask their children about their work, what they have learned and what they have had to complete. Parents/carers should email teachers with any questions.
- Other expectations of parental support, including the setting of routines, discussing online safety and live lesson protocols have been communicated through head teacher letters and are on our web site.
- Parents should ensure their children are taking regular exercise and eating well.

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

- Students will be expected to attend registration in a morning with their tutor – this will be through a live link where possible, 3 times a week.
- Students will often be asked to complete short assessments and feedback quizzes and teachers can track both their engagement and understanding and prompt those who have not completed work.
- Form tutors and teachers will prompt learnings through SMHW message if work is not viewed or submitted.
- We will check pupils' engagement with remote education after day 2, based on SMHW log in information and then internally monitor daily thereafter.
- Messages will be sent to parents via intouch if students have not logged in to SMHW to remind them to do so and offer support if students are not logging in over a number of consecutive days.
- HOD will co-ordinate larger assessment tasks across subject areas to monitor progress.
- HOD will oversee subject concerns and make contact with parents where appropriate.
- HOY will contact students who are causing concerns.
- DHT will oversee the progress and engagement of learners at KS3 and KS4
- During week 2, submissions of work for every student will be viewed and a formal contact will be made with home to inform parents of any student persistently failing to actively engage-across the curriculum.

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

- During interactive sessions eg live lessons and discussion tab on SMHW, teachers will ask questions and assess learning.
- SMHW quizzes will mark automatically and identify to students where there are errors. Teachers can then follow up and provide feedback.
- Interactive quizzes such as Kahoot, Quizlet can provide opportunities for whole class activities and whole class feedback.
- Other 'tests' eg BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy again mark work automatically so teachers can monitor progress.
- Subject specific software eg Bedrock, Mymaths and Activlearn will be used.
- Teachers aim to provide formative feedback every 6 lessons. This may be whole class feedback, feedback through live lessons (DIRT activities) or individual feedback through SMHW message, marked work sent back to students electronically.

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 students will be allocated a key worker who will keep in touch throughout the period of self-isolation (where possible). They will ask students and their families if they have any question or concerns.
- Parents and students are also encouraged to email their teachers / key workers / pastoral leads at any point
- Alternative work, including paper versions will be provided for SEND students who struggle to access online provision.

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?

Students will be able to access work on SMHW as described above.

Tutors/HOY will communicate with parents over engagement and offer support where needed.

Work completed can be submitted on SMHW or sent back to school and it will be assessed in line with other students in school.