



Remote Education

Keswick School

Spring Term 2021

This strategy will continue to evolve in line with the best available research and evidence about effective remote education, in response to feedback and in line with national guidance.

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 or if there is a local or national lockdown requiring all students (except vulnerable students and those of key workers) 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?

Lessons will be provided via Google Classroom as soon as staff are made aware of absence related to Coronavirus. Links may be provided to other platforms including: mygcsescience, Ever Learner, Seneca, BBC Bitesize, Oak Academy, and other high quality resources.

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 and students who are isolating are able to contact their teachers via Google Classroom for support. We may make adaptations to the curriculum for subjects where practical activities and controlled assessment tasks are not possible while students are at home.

We also expect students to continue reading for pleasure and they can do this through our digital library which provides students with access to hundreds of current fiction and non-fiction texts through Google Classroom.

Fitness activities which can be completed within Covid regulations are provided through year group Google Classrooms.

Assemblies, form activities, notices and competitions are provided through form and year group Google Classrooms.

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 as required by the DfE (although we recognise that all students work at a different pace and this may take some students more or less time overall)
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	5+ hours for Year 11 & 13 as required by the DfE (this includes the time which in school is supervised private study for Year 12&13)

There will also be two scheduled Google Meet ('live') form periods a week for each year group between 8.50 – 9.10am on the days below:

Key Stage 3 Form Meets – Monday and Wednesday

Key Stage 4 Form Meets – Tuesday and Friday

Key Stage 5 Form Meets – Monday and Thursday

Accessing remote education

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

- Google Classroom and Google Apps – Google Drive, docs, slides
- Google Meet for live lessons (see below)
- Other high quality resources such as: mygcscience, Ever Learner, Seneca, Oak Academy, Greenshaw Learning Trust, BBC Bitesize & high quality You Tube videos.

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

It is our aim to ensure all our students can access their education online. We conducted an ICT survey in September/October 2020 and followed this up with further communications with parents in January 2021 who required support with the technology required for remote learning. We have provided 80 devices through a loan agreement and supplemented this with 5 4G routers specifically for Pupil Premium children (as of 24th January 2021, the DfE have provided us with 11 laptops and we are awaiting the delivery of a further 21). We have also applied to the DfE for the increased mobile data on behalf of 50 families and are seeking vouchers through the BT data scheme for 60 families.

If any families require support with the technology required for remote learning they should contact the school. In the event that we are unable to aid students to access their learning online, we will provide access to packs of resources and textbooks to support their learning.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

We take particular note of the research conducted by the Education Endowment Fund (EEF). Their research into remote learning has found that the quality of remote teaching is more important than how lessons are delivered: 'There was no clear difference between teaching in real time ("synchronous teaching") and alternatives ("asynchronous teaching"). For example, teachers might explain a new idea live or in a pre-recorded video. But what matters most is whether the explanation builds clearly on pupils' prior learning or how pupils' understanding is subsequently assessed.'

Pre-recorded lessons have significant advantages in that students can pause, rewind and re-watch them while working at their own pace. They are also suitable for different family circumstances and contexts where families are sharing devices or where an internet connection is not reliable as several people are working from home.

However, relationships are also important, and ensuring students maintain a connection to the school community. This is why **we use a combination of live lessons (via Google Meet), recorded lessons and independent tasks for completion through Google Classroom.** Teachers are also online during each timetabled lesson so they can respond in real time to any student questions or difficulties. Students and teachers are able to communicate via Google Classroom's private comment function.

Live lessons can take many forms such as delivering new content, whole class feedback, diagnostic assessment of students' learning and question and answer sessions. Its purpose will be determined by the teacher as will the length of the Google Meet but these will generally be a minimum of 20 minutes. Students will know if they have a Google Meet live lesson as it will appear in their To Do list on Google Classroom with the details of the day and time.

Key Stage 3

KS3 students will receive at least one live lesson in maths and English each week and one live lesson in each other subject once per fortnight. The exception to this is personal development which will be taught through recorded lessons.

For PE & Games lessons, the PE department provide a weekly fitness challenge which will be available at the start of each week on the year group Google Classrooms. This is important for students' mental as well as physical health.

It is important that students continue to read for pleasure during the time away from school. For Year 7 Accelerated Reader lessons, students should continue to read privately. They can also continue to quiz on the books they have read

<https://ukhosted23.renlearn.co.uk/1981132/default.aspx>

We have subscribed to an elibrary platform digital library which provides all students with access to hundreds of current fiction and non-fiction texts through Google Classroom.

A free weekly newspaper is also available for students aged 7-14 by subscribing here:

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/free-downloadable-issue/>

Key Stage 4

Year 10 and 11 students will receive approximately 50% live lessons for each subject except personal development (delivered through recorded lessons) and games where the PE department will provide a weekly fitness challenge which will be available at the start of each week on the year group Google Classrooms. This is important for students' mental as well as physical health. We have also subscribed to an elibrary platform digital library which provides all students with access to hundreds of current fiction and non-fiction texts through Google Classroom.

Key Stage 5

Year 12 & 13 students will receive approximately 50% live lessons for each subject except Year 12 personal development (delivered through recorded lessons) and EPQ delivered through recorded lessons and small group 'live' tutorials. We have subscribed to an elibrary platform digital library which provides all students with access to hundreds of current fiction and non-fiction texts through Google Classroom.

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?

Students need to follow the order and timings of their school timetable especially in the light of the introduction of some live lessons from January 2021. These have been re-issued to all families along with the Week1/Week 2 dates.

All students are expected to join live lessons via Google Meet unless there is a very good reason for not doing so as this is part of our provision for their remote learning. It is important that students check their To Do list on Google Classroom at 8.40am-8.45am each morning to see which lessons may be live that day and that they follow their timetable.

Students are also expected to behave in line with the protocols for Google Meets issued to parents and as they would in an onsite classroom. This forms part of the behaviour policy addendum which was sent to home at the start of September 2020.

Teachers will set work which should take an hour, however students all work at different paces: we see this every day in a normal classroom environment. If your son/daughter appears to be completing work quickly, we would appreciate your support in checking they are putting in the required amount of detail. Where you feel your son/daughter is spending longer than the normal lesson time on each piece of work and unable to complete it in that time, please advise them to submit it to their teacher with a message. This is important as we need to ensure students take a break from the screen for the good of their mental health.

If parents have any questions or concerns please contact the school in the usual way and we will work with you to overcome any difficulties.

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

If a student does not appear to be engaging with remote learning at all in a subject, their teacher will contact them via Google Classroom to check everything is ok. If they do not receive a reply, they will record this on our centralised system. Where there is a pattern of regular non-engagement, our pastoral assistants will telephone and/or email home to check if everything is ok. Therefore if there is a reason why a student cannot engage with remote learning e.g. illness, please let the school know.

Where non engagement is related to issues with technology, we will work with families to provide access as explained above.

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

Teachers will provide regular feedback to students but this can take many different forms. Many teach over 350 students a week and so cannot provide written feedback on every individual piece of work.

Teachers will provide feedback through the following means: whole class feedback, comments to individual students, more detailed feedback on extended pieces of work and feedback via recorded video or live lessons. In some subjects, teachers will also provide self-marking quizzes so that students are provided with instant feedback and teachers can use their responses to plan future lessons.

Teachers will continue to reward students' work and effort with merits and these will be recorded on our school system.

In all cases, teachers will use student work submissions to help plan future lessons to act on any gaps/misconceptions and to develop their understanding further.

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.

If a child has an EHCP they will have a teaching assistant key worker attached to them to check in with them each week to ensure they are able to access the work. TAs will have access to teachers' Google Classrooms so they can see the work which is being set. They will feed back any relevant information to teachers.

Teachers will provide scaffolding in the lessons for students with SEND and may, where relevant, assign differentiated work to them using the facility on Google Classroom.

Heads of Year and pastoral assistants along with the SENDCO will monitor the centralised record for non-engagement in remote learning and ensure timely calls home are made to any students who appear to be in danger of disengagement. Where appropriate students will be provided with literacy/numeracy interventions to continue at home to support their learning e.g. IDL, Rapid maths, etc.

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?

If an individual child is self-isolating as a result of Coronavirus, then teachers will provide remote learning via Google Classroom. In most cases, this will be the same curriculum being access by their peers onsite. Where appropriate they may record their onsite lesson and post it on Google Classroom for an isolating student to access. They will provide support and feedback through the private comment function in Google Classroom.