



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 or national restrictions require children to remain at home or children are isolating due to testing positive for Covid 19. We have addressed key questions that parents or carers may have about remote learning and have provided contact details of key members of staff.

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 may need to make some adaptations in some subjects whilst children are at home, for example in PE. Individual pupils who are isolating will be able to access their lessons via the Zoom platform.

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

All students will follow their normal timetable as if they were in school including Form time. This means all students will receive 5 hours 15 minutes of learning. The school day is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 8.40am - 9am | Form Time |
| 9am - 10am | Period 1 |
| 10am - 11am | Period 2 |
| 11am - 11.15am | Breaktime |
| 11.15am - 12.15pm | Period 3 |
| 12.15pm - 1.15pm | Period 4 |
| 1.15pm - 2pm | Lunchtime |
| 2pm - 3pm | Period 5 |

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

Students will access their learning through the platform of Zoom and this will be in the form of live lessons. All students have been issued with a St James' email address to facilitate this. We would like to remind parents and carers that it is their responsibility to ensure Zoom accounts are set up correctly and that students can access the online platform should remote learning become necessary. This could involve parents setting up the Zoom account for their children. Homework will continue to be set as normal and can be set via Show My Homework.



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:

- Parents/carers of students experiencing difficulties accessing online learning due to a lack of devices or who do not have an internet connection, should contact Mr Maidment, Assistant Headteacher r.maidment@stjamesheadle.co.uk
- Where possible, we will support with the loan of devices and the provision of dongles or SIM cards. These devices are provided by the DfE and are limited in number
- Students experiencing technical difficulties may contact our IT Technicians a.millar@stjamesheadle.co.uk or t.millar@stjamesheadle.co.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use live teaching (online lessons) via Zoom to teach pupils remotely. There may be instances where students will be set tasks on Show My Homework if a member of staff is absent or unavailable to teach. Please be aware that staff will be teaching 'hybrid lessons' and therefore there may be a short delay in children being admitted to the lesson.

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We ask that parents/carers support the school and their child by providing a suitable place to work free from distractions and with nothing private in the background. Students should be dressed appropriately; this does not need to be school uniform. A secure internet connection should also be used. We ask wherever possible that the students have access to a microphone and camera to allow them to participate fully in Zoom. Students must enter the classroom using their surname and Form so as to identify themselves to the teacher; students will only be admitted who are in that teacher's class. It is imperative that students behave appropriately during these online lessons; anyone who does not will be removed from the lesson and not allowed to re-join.

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. Each Faculty will follow their assessment policy where appropriate but methods for feedback may be



adapted to suit Zoom teaching to include more regular verbal feedback, whole class feedback and feedback on work submitted via Show My Homework.

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 offer support and guidance where required. Staff who support these pupils in school will make contact with parents/carers to offer their guidance.

Key principles for accessing virtual lessons:

- Students should join the appropriate lesson with their normal class teacher by using the meeting IDs and passcodes that have been emailed out to parents and carers
- They must enter the classroom with their name displayed as their surname and form so as to identify themselves to the teacher; students will only be admitted who are in that teacher's class
- It is imperative that students behave appropriately during these online lessons; anyone who does not will be removed from the lesson and not allowed to re-join
- For safeguarding reasons, there will be no 1:1 video conferencing, staff who are teaching an online session where only one student has arrived will end the session, unless they are teaching a 'hybrid lesson' with students physically present in the classroom
- Students will be able to receive feedback on any work completed by submitting via Show My Homework to their class teacher

The safety of our students is paramount so we would also like to draw your attention to the following:

- Video conferences will only be hosted on school accounts and devices
- Meetings will be set up with safety and security as a priority
- Staff will remind students not to share private information
- We may record the lesson so that it can be reviewed if there is a need to. Recordings are strictly for the school's use only and to support in the safeguarding of our students

We would ask that parents ensure:

- The student is in a shared space in their home where possible
- Students are dressed appropriately; this does not need to be school uniform. They must not wear pyjamas
- There is nothing in the background that may be distracting or private



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

- A secure internet connection is used
- Students are expected to keep their cameras on during lessons so teachers can monitor conduct and engagement

For any general queries related to remote learning please contact the Senior Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Pickles, c.pickles@stjamesheadle.co.uk