

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents/carers/families about what to expect from remote education if 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?

All students have access to Microsoft Teams and are expected to be engaging with live lessons and assignments. Rules for online lessons and use of Microsoft Teams will be reinforced. The aim will be for the children to grow in confidence and independence in their use of Microsoft Teams – transferring skills learnt in school to the home environment.

Timetables for online learning will mirror pupils' timetables for a typical academic day. Any pupil who has an issue with logging in to Microsoft Teams, including issues relating to passwords and technical questions should contact our Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning, Mr J Murphy (James.Murphy@astreaernulf.org).

Any courses that require additional resources such as workbooks or practical equipment for Art, these resources will be posted out to individual pupils.

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 wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects, to be able to share resources online. The learning will continue to follow each year curriculum as planned in line with long term plan.

For example, some subjects like PE (team games), music practical lessons will have been changed to fit with the limits of remote learning. PE will focus on personal fitness and theory. Music lessons will focus on music appreciation instead of instrument practice.

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:

KS3 (Years 7,8 and 9)	Pupils should expect to be working for 5 hours per day. Homework tasks will follow the academy timetable each week.
KS4 (Years 10 and 11)	Pupils should expect to be working for 5 hours per day. Homework tasks will follow the academy timetable each week.

Accessing remote education

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

The school will be using Microsoft Teams which is accessible through laptops, smart mobile phones, tablets, Xbox and Playstation consoles (through their web browsers). Pupils have been given a unique email and password to access their Microsoft Teams Learning.

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:

The school has communicated with all parents and carers via the academy website, social medias and Astrea App to gather information around each household's ability to access remote learning. Based on this information those households in greatest need have been offered a digital device.

The school aims to acquire more digital devices and Wi-Fi dongles to provide all children in need.

The school will contact parents directly when devices are available. Parents/carers will then sign for the loan of the equipment which remains the property of the school. Parents, carers and pupils have already completed an acceptable use form for online learning.

Parents and carers should continue to contact the academy if they are in need of support and digital devices. Students who are unable to access online provision remotely will be classed as Educationally vulnerable and will be offered a place to attend school based learning provided until matters at home can be resolved.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Ernulf Academy strives to deliver as many live lessons as possible via Microsoft TEAMS. There may be some occasions when we will need to adapt an alternative short-term approach;

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- live teaching (online lessons)
- 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.

Ernulf Academy subscribes to the following high-quality resources:

- Kerboodle (Science)
- Hegarty maths (Mathematics)
- Linguagenut (French)

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?

Our expectations in remote learning are the same as in school: that pupils will engage in the learning and complete tasks set. All pupils should be prepared for 5 hours of learning each day together with their scheduled tutor time provision at the start and or end of the day. Year team assemblies will take place each week.

Work set by the teachers will be at the right ability so children, when asked to work independently, should be able to access the learning/work. Teachers will be online to provide live support and feedback daily as well as through the Teams chat function.

Some pupils, especially younger ones, may initially require some support from parents/carers regarding accessing Teams but as they become familiar with the platform this should become easier.

Younger pupils may need some support with independent learning initially, but teachers will also be available for feedback.

SEN interventions will continue to form part of our Assess, Plan, Do, Review cycle.

Parents and carers can support their children by ensuring they know when their children should be accessing a lesson and providing an environment in which they can work without distractions. Copies of pupils' timetables are available through the Astrea App.

The school day for each year group is outlined below:

Year 7 – 8.35am until 3.00pm

Year 8 – 8.35 am until 3.00pm

Year 9 – 8.45am until 3.10pm

Year 10 – 8.45am until 3.10pm

Year 11 – 9.00am until 3.25pm

It is our aim that the our remote learning provision will mirror our students school days as closely as possible.

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

Pupils' engagement in online learning will be checked daily by the Form Tutor and Head of Year on a daily basis – tutor time will continue to allow students a platform to communicate with and share any issues with their form tutors.

Non-attendance will be followed up with phone calls and home visits where required. We will continue to check remote learning attendance as we monitor attendance in school.

Where a child is not fully engaging with the learning, the school will contact their parents/carers to discuss any reasons and solutions to this.

If solutions to remote learning and engagement cannot be found or are ineffective the school will contact you to discuss your child attending sessions in 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:

Teacher sessions are timetabled daily to address misconceptions and provide pupils with feedback on assignments given. Just as when in school - these feedback sessions will inform the next day's/sessions teaching and input.

Teachers will use a range of methods for assessment and feedback much as they would do in lessons at school, utilising the Ernulf lesson template and including but not exclusively:

- low stakes pop quizzes
- teacher feedback live sessions
- marking of submitted assignments.
- direct phone calls
- use of workbooks and printed materials.
- online programmes with instant feedback (e.g., Hegarty maths)
- use of breakout rooms on Teams.

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:

Teachers will provide differentiated work and support to those children with SEND / EHCP. Teachers will contact parents to discuss EHCPs and the bespoke provision for those pupils.

Differentiated work could include extra support from the teacher online in breakout rooms, extra scaffolding in tasks, bespoke tasks pitched at the right level for pupils or specific learning sent home.

For any further information, please contact our SEN Co-ordinator, Mrs Deborah Chudasama (Deborah.Chudasama@astreaernulf.org)

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?

In the event that the majority of their peers are in school, those that are self-isolating will be able to access lessons in school remotely through Microsoft Teams. Printed materials that are used in class will be provided digitally or through work packs sent home. The remote learning is designed so that wherever a student is accessing their education the quality and delivery are maintained.

The school will continue to celebrate students who demonstrate exceptional progress, work, and behaviour through our 'shout-outs' – digital posts celebrating students work on our social media accounts.