



BIRMINGHAM Ormiston Academy  
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## **BOA Remote Education Provision**

Information for Parents

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## **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.

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?**

- On the first day students should log in to the MS Teams platform and complete any outstanding independent study tasks already posted for the week.
- The following day remote education resources will be fully available.

#### **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. Where whole cohorts are isolating this means lessons are taught via video link (MSTeams), where only a few students are isolating we facilitate learning via written instruction and resource (shared via MSTeams) and email communication.
- However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example in art and design where students may have access to fewer resources, or in dance lessons, where students may not have a space at home where they can practice physical movement safely.

## **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 5 to 6 hours per day in line with their normal timetable.

## **Accessing remote education**

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

All online remote education is provided via the Microsoft Teams platform, which all students have access to, have been trained to use and can access for free.  
[www.office.com](http://www.office.com)

### **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:

- We have asked pupils and parents to let us know if they do not have access to a device (eg. phone, tablet, laptop, desktop computer) or the internet at home.
- We do everything we can to provide laptop computers and 4G internet dongles to those who have indicated they need one.
- Please email [ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk](mailto:ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk) or phone 0121 359 9300 if you would like to talk to someone about borrowing a device or internet dongle.
- If pupils would like printed resources they should contact their teacher in the first instance.
- Pupils can complete tasks on paper if they prefer and photograph evidence to upload to MsTeams.
- If for some reason a pupil cannot digitally submit work then it can be posted to the academy. Let us know if this is the case and we will cover the postage costs.

### **How will my child be taught remotely?**

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

- Appropriate learning activities are being set for all students who have been directed to self-isolate. The tasks set mirror as closely as possible the learning that would otherwise be delivered in the classroom.
- Where whole cohorts are isolating or the if the academy is closed, then lessons are taught via video link (MSTeams).
- Where only a few students are isolating we facilitate learning via written instruction and resource (shared via MSTeams) and email communication.
- Students working remotely are expected to spend as much time on their studies as they would when following their normal timetable.
- Learning guides and resources for the week are made available in advance of the timetabled lesson.
- Lesson presentations (containing instructions) and resources are being shared with students via the Virtual Classroom platform Microsoft Teams.
- Learning tasks and work to be submitted will be clearly identified as 'assignments' within the Microsoft Teams app.
- All students have already been trained to use Microsoft Teams and are now experienced users, as we also use this platform to manage Independent Study.
- Please note that students will need to use their BOA IT account to log in to MS Teams, email teachers and upload evidence of their work.
- For support accessing the files and/or logging in please contact [ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk](mailto:ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk).
- The MS Teams app and Email is our primary communication tool. Teachers will respond to student questions and queries either on a case by case basis or in bulk communications.
- Teachers will ensure that students receive feedback on their progress in line with departmental and academy marking policy.
- The learning guides, resources, and emails may be supplemented in some areas with other digital tools such as Mathswatch, Seneca Learning, GCSE Pod and Ezy Education. If your child is instructed to access these but has any technical difficulty, please either contact the subject teacher or [ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk](mailto:ITHelp@boa-academy.co.uk).
- Every week we will send a reminder to check for the latest instructions and activities.
- Whilst the academy is open and classes are running as normal, we will not ask teachers to deliver live streamed video lessons as this will create too much additional workload, however they will check-in with isolating students periodically.
- In the unfortunate event of an academy closure we will strive provide live streamed video lessons which will broadly match normal timetables.

## 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?

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Students working remotely are expected to spend as much time on their studies as they would when following their normal timetable. We expect them to submit evidence of their work when requested, whether tasks are completed or not.
- We strive to make our remote lesson resources as easy as possible to follow, and we encourage pupils to engage with their teachers for assistance where practicable so as to ease the burden on parents. However, you can help us by setting routines for your child and providing a quiet space for them to study where possible.

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

- Teachers check what work is being submitted on a regular, daily and weekly basis. Work submitted for assessment is marked and feedback provided every two to three weeks in line with our usual marking policy.
- If a student is not responding to the work we set, the teachers will send prompts via MSTeams and email. If this has no impact they will contact parents via email and/or telephone.

### 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:

- Group feedback following class activities
- Automated quiz results immediately after submission
- Notes and comments on submitted class-work and log-books (updated every 2-3 weeks)
- Exam marks and formative feedback sheets within 2 weeks of submitting an exam paper.
- BTEC Teaching and Learning Project feedback within 2 weeks of submission.
- BTEC Formal Summative feedback within 3 weeks of submission

## **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:

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Our teachers tailor their resources in the first instance to be accessible to all pupils and prioritise responding to enquiries from students with special educational needs and disabilities if they are having difficulty accessing our resources.
- Our SENCO personally supports families and pupils who need extra support and guidance and our curriculum support team check in periodically with all our SEN students to offer advice and guidance.

## **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?**

It will not differ. I.e:

- Where whole cohorts are isolating or the if the academy is closed, then lessons are taught via video link (MSTeams).
- Where only a few students are isolating we facilitate learning via written instruction and resource (shared via MSTeams) and email communication.