FEARNHILL
SCHOOL

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students 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 students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

A student'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 students being sent home?

The Covid-19 page of the school website (clearly signposted on the school's homepage - http://www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/) has links to the full school curriculum for every year group every day. Links to online lessons can be found on this page. Most of the lessons are taken from Oak National Academy. For some subjects the online lessons come from other sources. Students should select the year group, select the week and then choose the subjects you would normally have on their timetable to access the correct lesson.

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?

When a year group has been sent home for a short period of time (e.g. one week to enable us to set up a testing centre) learning will focus on revision of key ideas recently taught. However, where students are off school for longer than a week they will follow the usual school curriculum.

There are some caveats: each subject area will make certain changes to the sequencing of the curriculum, selecting topics that lend themselves best to remote teaching & learning. For example, a unit in science that is heavily based on practical work (e.g. rates of reaction) may be postponed in favour of a unit that has less practical work (e.g. environmental chemistry). Or in maths, a topic requiring specialist equipment (e.g. geometry) may be postponed until we are sure all students have access to the equipment they need. If you have any questions about changes to the curriculum contact the Head of Faculty via admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?
Each student is expected to complete the same amount of work as during a normal school day. This means five hours of learning for every student in Key Stage 3&4 every day. For students in the sixth form it means

they attend the same number of lessons as they would otherwise. Students will also be set homework to complete between lessons.

Accessing remote education

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

Students require access to the internet and a device such as a smartphone, tablet or laptop. Students will also need a pen and paper. If students run out of space in their exercise books they can collect a new one from school reception.

The best way for students to access assignments, teacher announcements, live lesson links, resources and feedback is in Google Classroom. To do this students need the school Google login details. If students have a smartphone they should also download the Classroom App. Students can submit their work (either typed or handwritten) for marking either using a laptop or their phone. Students do not need a device with a microphone and/or camera to access live lessons, but it will help.

All assignments and links will also be recorded in Show My Homework in case any student cannot access their Google account on any given day. Students should have the app on their phone and need to know their login details.

The links for Google classroom and Show My Homework can be found on the Covid-19 page of the school website http://www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/covid-19-updates/.

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 students may not have suitable online access at home. Mr Marsh (Assistant Headteacher - T&L) is responsible for ensuring every student has the support they need. The Access to Technology for Students protocol clarifies this.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

<u>Live lessons on Google Meet</u>
Students in Key Stage 3 will have at least one live lesson a day with a teacher.
Students in Key Stage 4 will have at least two live lessons a day with their teachers.
Students in Sixth Form will have all lessons as live lessons.

<u>Resource-based lessons</u>
For all non-live lessons, students will be set to complete work. Sometimes this will be a task set online, sometimes it will be a link to Oak National Academy lessons and sometimes it will be a video produced by Fearnhill teachers with accompanying tasks.

Full details of schoolwide expectations for remote learning can be found in the Remote Learning Policy and accompanying documents.

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 are expected to be punctual in attending all live online lessons and to stay to the end of the lesson. A register will be taken by the teacher for each lesson. Students are expected to complete five hours of learning a day and to submit schoolwork on the same day the lesson takes place, unless agreed otherwise by the class teacher.

Timetables for live online lessons can be found on the Covid-19 page of the school website.

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

Student engagement is primarily monitored through live lesson registers. Where students are not engaging with remote learning, you will receive a phone call from the pastoral team. Details of the process for monitoring engagement with remote learning can be found in the Remote Learning Protocols – Expectations for Staff document and the Remote Learning Policy.

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.

The most frequent form of feedback students will receive is verbal feedback in live lessons. Whole Class Feedback will be used to highlight common errors and misunderstandings in work submitted. Students may also receive written, typed or orally recorded comments in Google Classroom.

The school feedback policy will continue during remote learning in the same way that it does during normal times. The only difference is that students will not complete assessments in their feedback books (since they are kept at school) and the format of some assessments may be adapted to suit remote teaching and learning. The whole school feedback policy can be found here and the departmental feedback policies here.

Additional support for students 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 students, for example some students 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 students.

All students who have an Education Health & Care Plan will be offered a place in school with teachers and inclusion support assistants available to support them. Where parents would prefer to keep their children at home, daily one-to-one support from an inclusion support assistant by video call will be offered to help students complete their learning.

All students with special educational needs will receive weekly phone calls from the inclusion team. Where students are struggling to access or complete work additional one-to-one support will be offered, along with differentiated resources.

Remote education for self-isolating students

Where individual students 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 students 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?

When school is open as usual to all students not self-isolating, work for self-isolating students can be found on the self-isolation timetable on the Covid-19 page of the school website. The lesson links match the work being covered in school and students should submit their work to teachers in Google Classroom. Students can expect to receive specific guidance from teachers, as required in their individual circumstances.

When the school site is closed to most pupils as a result of a lockdown, the self-isolating timetable will be removed from the school website to avoid confusion with the remote learning timetable.