WASHWOOD HEATH ACADEMY

SECONDARY KEY STAGE 3 AND KEY STAGE 4 REMOTE GUIDE FOR PARENTS

JANUARY 2021

WEBLINKS TO OUR PLATFORMS:

Below is a list of links to many of the platforms that we use at WHA. Staff will post direct links into the SMHW (Show my Homework) posts for easy and direct access to all lessons and content. If you are unsure please do contact school via phone or email.

https://www.satchelone.com/login (Show My Homework)

https://www.thenational.academy/ (Oak National Academy)

https://edu.google.com/intl/en_uk/products/classroom/ (Google Classroom)

https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/log-in (Microsoft teams)

https://theday.co.uk/ (The Day)

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize (BBC Bitesize)

https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/ (Maths Watch)

https://www.linguascope.com/ (Linguascope)

https://ttrockstars.com/ (Times tables rockstars)

https://www.gcsepod.com/ (GCSE POD)

https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/ (SENECA LEARNING)

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 pupils 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 pupils being sent home?

All students have been supplied with remote learning packs made up of high-quality resources, selected by subject leaders. Remote learning packs are produced and updated on a termly basis and these packs are sent out whilst children are at school. (In case your child is absent when these packs are issued, please ask your child to speak to their house leader when they return to school or contact the school via phone or email enquiry@washwood.academy to arrange a time to collect the pack.) Printed instructions are produced by teachers guiding students which specific sections, pages and topics need to be completed in their packs. In addition, further guidance about how students should use each pack is always published on the SMHW (Show My Homework) app.

In a situation when a single student, a class bubble, a whole year group, or the whole school is self-isolating and/or required to stay at home due to a national lockdown or local restrictions, some online remote learning will be made available within the next working day of an instruction to stay at home. The Academy will ensure that full online timetables are in place within 3 days of a move to remote learning during a national lockdown. Students have year group timetables to follow and these support students' learning through a carefully structured blend of lessons that are live and delivered using Microsoft Teams as well as pre-recorded lessons and powerpoints created by Washwood teachers or the Oak Academy https://www.thenational.academy/ .

In addition, each year group's timetable will include sessions for most subjects when students are required to complete specific tasks, assignments, tests etc. using other resources such as text books, worksheets, revision guides, etc. The work that students complete throughout the normal school day, 9am – 3.pm, is supplemented with homework, enrichment & revision activities according to each year group's timetable and further guidance is provided by subject teachers on 'SMHW'. (The work packs sent home will support all students who may not have access to a device and students who do not have access to a device or a quiet space to work at home are entitled to work in schol). Students will continue to be assessed and will receive feedback in a variety of ways including the use of whole class feedback and feedback on assessments or quizzes.

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 would in school. The remote education curriculum follows each subject's curriculum in relation to sequencing of topics and skills and this means that there should be a smooth transition from home to school when students are able to return to school. Furthermore, this enables teachers to monitor and evaluate students' progress in as normal a way as possible.

Remote education does require some curriculum and delivery modifications for some subjects. For example, in practical subjects the provision may differ, and we will endeavour to ensure students have the ability to engage in a meaningful way despite a lack of specialist resources and equipment in subjects such as Music, Art & Technology. We will, where appropriate, make specialist equipment available including art materials for those studying art at KS4, musical instruments for those studying KS4 music or taking part in peripatetic music provision.

We may also use remote learning as an opportunity to close any gaps in students' knowledge and understanding as well as covering any new content. However, all material will be linked exactly to the school curriculum as planned by subject leaders.

The remote learning packs, as well as the online provision we offer, have been planned and sequenced by subject teachers to ensure all students continue to access the same curriculum at home as they would in school.

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 directed independent work) will ensure students receive the same number of hours as they would in school. At least 5 hours of learning is provided every day through a range of live lessons, pre-recorded lessons and other directed learning tasks. We will also continue to provide work for completion after school hours traditionally called homework.

Accessing remote education

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

At Washwood Heath Academy, we will deliver remote education according to a remote learning timetable issued to each year group, for the full week. There are specific timings for each session of the day. The timetables are published on the school website and on 'Show My Homework'. If we make any alterations, we will let parents know in advance.

This will allow all parents and students to see what, when & how they should be studying. We will deliver:

Live lessons on Microsoft Teams at timetabled slots clearly marked on the students' timetables and on Microsoft Teams calendars too. Please ensure that your child is logged into the lesson at the start and where late arrival is unavoidable, it should not be after 10 minutes of the start time. All live lessons are recorded and uploaded for any child to watch later, if they are unable to attend the scheduled lesson. However, it is much better to attend the live lesson when it is actually being delivered because this gives your child an opportunity to ask questions and seek additional support. Attendance to these sessions is monitored and followed up and we do take a register each lesson. All attendance to lessons is collated on a master file so that we can monitor student engagement and offer support and guidance where we feel it is required.

Pre-recorded lessons are created and produced from Washwood Heath Academy's teachers using PowerPoint and videos. These are uploaded onto SMHW and link directly to content and skills covered in each subject's current curriculum plan. In some instances, we will use the pre-recorded content produced by the Oak National Academy (having checked it is suitable for our students and links to our curriculum). When materials from the Oak Academy are used, they are marked on the timetable and there will be direct links on SMHW so that students do not have to search and check they are accessing the correct Oak Academy Lesson.

We will also use more specialist platforms for subjects such as Maths, Languages, Science and the Arts and other practical subjects. These will all be made available for free and will be signposted via SMHW.

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:

- If you do not have a laptop or digital device for remote learning, please contact the school immediately via phone or email enquiry@washwood.academy and we will ensure a school place is made available for you whilst we endeavour to secure your child a device for use at home. We have issued a range of devices including laptops, iPads and tablets so far and we are endeavouring to acquire more devices as soon as possible. There is more advice on the website of how to use other devices and support with free data.

- When laptops and devices for internet usage are sourced, we will issue these in accordance to the waiting list where students have been prioritised. We know that many students are sharing one device with their siblings too and we are doing our very best to support families at this difficult time. Both live lessons and pre-recorded lessons are available outside of the timetabled sessions and this might help where siblings are sharing a device.

- Work packs are sent home on a termly basis. If at any point a student has lost their pack, was absent when they were issued or has been unable to collect a pack, then additional packs are available – please contact school via phone or email. The work packs contain high quality resources made and sourced by subject specialists and link directly to the school curriculum for that term.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

All year groups will be issued with a timetable to support families with a consistent routine. This will include a consistent start time for all year groups as well as a weekly house assembly.

We will deliver lessons via:

- Live teaching (online lessons via Microsoft Teams)

- Pre-recorded teaching (by our own subject teachers)

- Oak National Academy lessons (linked directly to our curriculum and selected by our subject staff)

- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)

- Use of academic reading via 'The Day' with subject specific links, literacy development as well as focussing students on global issues.

- Platforms paid for by school and made available for our students including, Charanga, Maths Watch, Linguascope, Timestables Rockstars & others (all apps and platforms will be signposted on SMHW)

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?

- If your child is not well and will not be able to engage in online learning, then we would ask you to follow the school absence procedure. This means that you should contact school if your child is unwell and unable to attend remote learning sessions.

- Students should regard Live Learning/ recorded lessons in the same manner as classroom learning.

- Students should only use technology at home with the permission of their parent / guardian.

- Students should continue to us appropriate classroom language and behaviour.

- Students should conduct video learning in an open space at home in accordance with the 'Remote Learning Policy' (share link)

- All students are required to follow school behaviour expectations and policies. We will investigate and sanction any poor behaviour as we would normally do so in school.

- Students are expected to be dressed appropriately for learning in home clothes (e.g. no sleep wear, no vest tops, hats, or hoods etc.).

- Students should remain attentive and respectful during sessions and ensure that they are free from distractions. Students should not be using personal social media in lesson time.

- Students should not use school platforms to discuss personal matters.

- Students should not share their password with any other student or organisation. Parents are permitted to know their child's password.

- During the Live Lessons, students must not deliberately browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If a student accidentally comes across any such material, they should report it immediately to their teacher and/r parent / guardian.

- Students must not record or take photos of my classmates or teachers during Live Lessons, or recorded lessons, nor share lessons publicly.

- Students should not make derogatory verbal or written comments about other students in the lesson – this could be perceived as online bullying and is not acceptable.

- Any contact with teachers should be through the platforms agreed by the school and not through personalised accounts open to public viewing, comments or sharing.

- Students should continue to be respectful and polite and avoid posting negative comments.

- Parents should be aware if their child is engaging in a live lesson via Teams or viewing a recorded lesson.

- Parents should always be aware of what websites their child is accessing whilst working online, ensuring these websites are appropriate and are those recommended in the work that has been set.

- If a parent is concerned about the content of a website, email, or online communication they should contact the school immediately. In addition, the following website can be used to report harmful content: https://reportharmfulcontent.com/

- Parents should understand how children can be safe online – parents should engage with the safeguarding section on the school website to support their understanding of keeping children safe online. In addition, the following websites may support parents and carers to keep their children safe online:

  o Think know provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online

  o Parent info is a collaboration between Parent zone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations.

  o Childnet offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support

  o Internet matters provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.

  o Net-aware has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps, and games

  o Let's Talk About It has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalization

  o UK Safer Internet Centre has tips, advice, guides, and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services

- Parents should look out for signs of online bullying that their child may be a perpetrator or victim of. Parents should report these to the school. In addition, for bullying or abuse online parents can:

  - Get advice on reporting online abuse from the National Crime Agency's Child Exploitation and Online Protection command

  - Get advice and support from Anti-Bullying Alliance for children who are being bullied.

- Parents should feel comfortable contacting the school at any time if they have any concerns about the remote learning process, the content of live lessons, the content of work being set, the nature of websites/videos being used to support learning and/or inappropriate use of the internet by their own or other children. Parents can contact the school by: Emailing enquiry@washwood.academy

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

- Students will receive weekly feedback about their work which may take the form of whole class feedback, live feedback in live lessons, awarding assessment marks/grades and written feedback on written submissions.
- Students will receive feedback on quizzes they complete via SMHW & other platforms to allow them and their teacher to continually monitor and assess their progress.
- Staff will ask students to answer questions in live lessons to gauge students' understanding and address misconceptions.
- Parents/carers will receive a call at least every 2 weeks to ensure students are safe and well as well as provide updates on how their child is engaging in online learning. Parents/carers of vulnerable children are contacted twice a week if their child is not attending school.
- Where students fail to regularly attend online lessons, parents will receive a text as well as a phone call from subject teachers
- The Academy is monitoring attendance to live lessons, engagement with other online platforms. We produce a weekly report and identify which families to contact because their child may need additional support with remote learning.
- Parents/carers can contact school via phone or email with regards to any concerns

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

- We will provide whole class feedback.
- In some live lessons, live feedback will be given.
- Feedback via marked quizzes using digital platforms.
- We will assess and give feedback on written submissions where appropriate.
- A range of tests, assignment and assessments will be set at regular intervals.
- Students will receive weekly feedback

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:

All students with specific educational needs will have contact twice a week from a named TA to ensure they have the ability to access and understand the content and continue to make progress, ensuring any concerns from parents, carers or students are answered.

Additional recourses are also produced from the TA and sent home for families to support more specific needs. The role of the TA will also be to make contact with the subject staff to help support live delivery as well as plan how delivery can be differentiated so tasks and work does not become overwhelming for those with specific needs.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remain in school, the remote education provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of both teaching pupils both at home and in school. Students will be able to continue to access pre-recorded materials (produced by our staff) as well as accessing homework & other content via SMHW.