



VTC 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 if local/ national restrictions require cohorts or bubbles to return home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

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?

In the first day or two, students will receive packs of work which reflect the schools' curriculum as closely as possible. The work will be differentiated for your child. Clear lines of communication will be identified, and further correspondence will come from the school explaining how the learning will be structured for the period of time when remote education is required.

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 may need to make some adaptations in some subjects and will alert you to this via email/ letter. Of course, our focus on outdoor adventurous activities, sport and P.E. is also limited.

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) to take broadly 4-5 hours a day- reminding pupils to take a break from their screens at regular intervals.

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

We will be using Microsoft Teams to deliver the online lessons with students. If we use any additional online resources. You will be contacted and given any necessary information, such as the url, usernames and passwords.

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:

When students do not have access to the necessary equipment, such as laptops, we are able to lend them to the students. Parents and students sign a 'Laptop Loan Agreement' and an 'Acceptable Use Policy'.

If students require any physical resources, we are able to supply these. The method we use may depend on the student's geographical location, but they may be put in the post or delivered to student houses.

If students are unable to submit work online, it can be posted to the school, or it maybe collected. If this is an issue, you should contact the Headteacher.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- daily live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g., video/audiorecordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g., workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences – such as Mathletics, BBC Bitesize

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?

We understand that all parents have different commitments throughout the week and that remote learning can be challenging for all. We expect that parents encourage their children to participate in all aspects of the remote learning program and know that this is easier for some parts of the program than others. If you are able to, and can, supporting your child to complete some work would be excellent – if you would like to, but struggle with the content, please contact us and we will be happy to support you.

As with physical attendance at school, we need to keep accurate attendance registers. Your child's attendance on the daily morning and afternoon sessions will be reflected in their record of attendance. If your child is ill and will not be able to attend the live sessions or complete the work set, please let us know on either paul@vtcindependentschool.co.uk

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

We will be working with your child twice daily in live sessions, and they will have work set for them to complete independently. We will quickly know if your child is engaging or not and will contact you directly, via phone call or email.

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:

Your child will receive feedback in live lessons throughout using questioning, low stake quizzes; they can even receive live feedback on the work they are currently doing with the member of staff or about work they have completed independently. Feedback will mainly be verbal but will include written feedback on assessment pieces, so that students can use it when they are completing work independently, outside of the live sessions.

Feedback will be given throughout live sessions. For any work completed independently and submitted to staff, work will be assessed with written feedback on a weekly basis.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs and SEND

How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support from adults at home?

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:

We want to help if you need support in working with your child. As every child's needs are individual, the support needed may reflect this. Our SENCO, is available to meet with you online to help with any concerns you have, and we have resources available.

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?

If possible, we will continue to offer two live online lessons per day through Microsoft Teams. However, if we do not have enough staff to deliver these online lessons, the way we deliver our remote education will change. It could consist of 1 live lesson per day, with independent work set.

It will be a combination of the following:

- Daily live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching (e.g., VTC Independent School lessons, video/audiorecordings made by teachers)
- printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g., workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences – such as Mathletics

When this situation arises, we will be in contact with you to organise the exact structure of remote learning.

