

The Charter School Bermondsey – Remote Education Provision

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 where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating and for information on who to contact with questions, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

Through the use of new and emerging technologies, The Charter School Bermondsey is able to continue delivering the expected school curriculum to all of our students. Our staff will deliver the full school timetable to all students through live MS Teams lessons with students recording their work on OneNote meaning they will also receive ongoing feedback from their teachers as per the usual school policy. We will also facilitate online Enrichment opportunities where possible (including music lessons).

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

The Charter School Bermondsey has established a clear system for the delivery of online learning meaning there should be minimal disruption to your child's education. In the event of a return to remote education, students would be able to access all of their previous work and will continue with the existing curriculum. In the event of any unforeseen technical or access issues, students may be set independent work via Show My Homework or MS Teams.

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. For example, in practical subjects such as Physical Education and Drama, students might be required to watch a live demonstration or video and take notes, rather than physically taking part themselves.

Students will also follow the existing Learning Family Time timetable and will join one assembly per week.

Remote teaching and study time each day

Students will follow the existing school timetable during any virtual school provision. However, in order to ensure the wellbeing of our students, lessons will be five minutes shorter in order that students can have regular breaks away from their screens. Timetables can be found in your child's planner whilst information on the timings of the school day can be found on the school website.

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 same number of hours each day as if they were in school.

Accessing remote education

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

All live virtual lessons will be delivered through MS Teams with most work being recorded on OneNote. All students have been issued with their logins for these platforms and have been trained in school in how to access and use these programmes. If there are specific access issues with student access to MS Teams, please contact the relevant head of year for assistance.

Some lessons may require students to access other learning platforms such as GCSEPod, Hegarty Maths, Mathswatch or GCSE Bitesize. Where this is the case, students have been provided with any required login details and can contact their teachers if there are any access issues.

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 audit the ICT provision for our students on an ongoing basis through whole school messaging and communications through our pastoral team. We also receive ongoing feedback from teaching staff in order to identify any issues that may prevent students from accessing our virtual provision.
- We also monitor student engagement with virtual school on a weekly basis and will use this data to identify and explore potential issues that may prevent students from accessing their curriculum.
- Where a need is identified, we will ensure student access to the relevant ICT equipment (laptops, WiFi access etc). Through our own fundraising and our access to the Department for Education device scheme, we are able to provide necessary equipment for all students who require it to access our virtual provision.
- We will also supply subject-specific equipment such as Art materials or musical instruments (where possible) to support our virtual provision.
- Any concerns or requests around ICT or other materials should be communicated to the relevant head of year.
- We are also able to access our Hardship Fund during this unprecedented time. If you or your family need further support, please contact the school through heads of year to discuss what we can offer.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Some examples of remote teaching approaches:

- Live teaching (online lessons) through MS Teams as previously described. All students are able to access live lessons with their teachers and follow the expected school curriculum whilst recording their work digitally using OneNote.
- Live lessons where students will be set independent assignments on other remote learning platforms such as GCSE Pod or Hegarty Maths.
- Setting of assessments through MS Teams, MS Forms or other appropriate platforms
- Music lessons and other enrichment opportunities through MS Teams
- Setting of independent assignments or projects that students complete at home using physical materials. In Art for instance, students can access a live lesson but will complete most of their work using their exercise book.
- Some students will also access our online tuition programme through MS Teams. These students will be given individual logins and will be supported by a member of The Charter School Bermondsey staff at the outset of the programme.

It should be noted that The Charter School Bermondsey will actively try to vary the learning experiences for our students so that they are not working from their screens all day. We have, as mentioned previously, slightly reduced the length of lessons in order that students can have regular breaks away from their screens.

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 expect that:

- All students engage with all live lessons and learning opportunities as they would if they were in physical school.
- All students follow the school behaviour and use of ICT policies throughout virtual school.
- Parents to notify us immediately of any student absence or if there are any issues that may affect students' ability to access virtual school and to work with the school to address any poor engagement from students.
- Parents to discuss engagement report with students and to inform the school if any further support is required to address engagement issues.

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

Student attendance is taken every lesson by their teacher and is monitored by our Pastoral team. We will contact home where we see poor attendance from students in order to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.

Teachers will also use an in-school reporting system to monitor and record student engagement with their online lessons. This grade is based on the effort and engagement with the work set and will be monitored by academic subject leads and by our Pastoral team. You will also receive a report of student engagement over any long-term period of virtual learning.

In the instances of ongoing poor attendance or engagement, the school will consult with any relevant agencies and will take appropriate steps to identify and remove any barriers to a student's access to their education. We may also request that students attend physical school in order to facilitate their access to the curriculum.

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:

- Students will complete most work using MS Teams and OneNote which allows teachers to set tasks and assignments and to see live progress from each student.
- Feedback from teachers may include ongoing written comments on OneNote or voice notes and verbal interventions throughout the lesson.
- Students may also receive focused feedback through online platforms such as Hegarty Maths and GCSE Pod and teachers may use other online quizzing platforms to assess student progress.
- Students will receive in-depth formative feedback as per the school assessment cycle. The timing and number of these opportunities will depend on when the virtual school provision is required in the school year.
- Students will also complete summative, end-of-unit assessments which will be marked by staff and graded accordingly. This information will be shared through our usual school reporting process.
- Feedback can also be delivered on a whole class level where common issues or misconceptions have been identified by the teacher.

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:

- We will make and maintain contact with all families of SEND student on the announcement of a period of virtual school to identify any potential barriers or concerns over the accessing of virtual learning.
- Regular contact with the families of students with Educational Health Care Plans to ensure the needs of their plan are met. This may include encouraging these students to attend physical school where they can access ongoing Inclusion support.
- Regular professional development for staff on how best to cater for the learning needs of SEND students throughout virtual school.
- Online interventions such as speech and language therapy will still be made available to students.
- Where possible, Inclusion assistants will join students' live lessons in order to support their learning experience. This may also include using break-out rooms in MS Teams to deliver focused support.
- If you have any specific issues you'd like to discuss, please contact Ms. Hayward (SENDCo).

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 your child is forced to self-isolate, teachers will adapt school work and will assign each lesson to OneNote or any other relevant platform. Students will be expected to work independently to complete these tasks and will receive ongoing support from their head of year and Learning Family Tutor. Upon their return to school, students will be able to continue accessing the curriculum as normal.

Where possible, teachers will dial these students in to the lesson using MS Teams where they will be able to hear direct instruction from their teachers.

Students who are self-isolating may also be expected to complete other independent work which will be checked regularly by their teachers. Our Pastoral Team will also monitor the attendance and engagement of all self-isolating students and will intervene as per the approach stated earlier.