Warblington School

Remote Education Provision

Information for Parents

January 2021

Remote education provision: information for parents

The information in this booklet 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. This may differ if your child is isolating whilst others remain in the class being taught.

This document outlines our provision during complete class, cohort or whole school lockdowns. The provision for those isolating whilst their peers remains in school is different and is detailed on the back page.
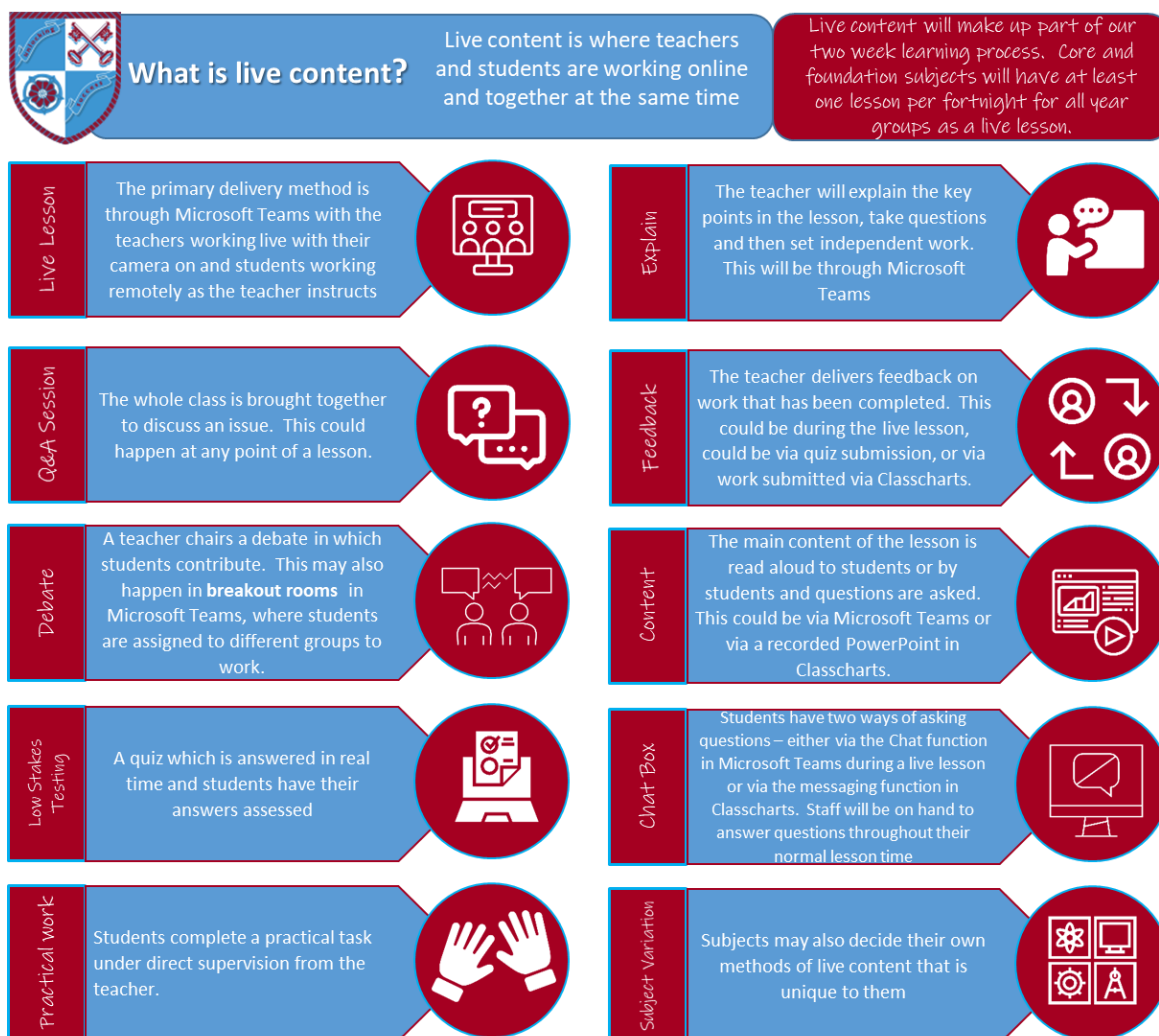
It is important to note that much has been written around remote education. Our approach is based on our experiences during the first lockdown in March 2020, the subsequent work with staff and students since that time and using the latest research available.

We believe that learning is best achieved using a hybrid model of live lessons and blended learning. We are keeping all teachers with their classes as this helps to ensure the curriculum is covered evenly and gives the students a level consistency that means a more seamless transition once students return to school. This balance of live lesson content and blended learning is allowing staff to plan and assess effectively, to ensure we are aware of what has been learnt remotely and to ensure screen time can be planned. Whilst we know live lessons do add to student engagement, there is also a potential for a large amount of time spent in front of a screen which may have a detrimental impact to a student's mental health and wellbeing

We have used the recent OfQual / DfE document to help support this method of learning. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/whats-working-well-in-remote-education/whats-working-well-in-remote-education

Therefore, our approach is bespoke to Warblington students and may differ from that of other schools. The diagram below outlines and explains some of the key terminology used in this document and helps to understand what we mean in our remote education delivery.

What is live content? Live content is where teachers and students are working online and together at the same time

Live content will make up part of our two week learning process. Core and foundation subjects will have at least one lesson per fortnight for all year groups as a live lesson.

Live Lesson – The primary delivery method is through Microsoft Teams with the teachers working live with their camera on and students working remotely as the teacher instructs

Explain – The teacher will explain the key points in the lesson, take questions and then set independent work. This will be through Microsoft Teams

Q&A Session – The whole class is brought together to discuss an issue. This could happen at any point of a lesson.

Feedback – The teacher delivers feedback on work that has been completed. This could be during the live lesson, could be via quiz submission, or via work submitted via Classcharts.

Debate – A teacher chairs a debate in which students contribute. This may also happen in **breakout rooms** in Microsoft Teams, where students are assigned to different groups to work.

Content – The main content of the lesson is read aloud to students or by students and questions are asked. This could be via Microsoft Teams or via a recorded PowerPoint in Classcharts.

Low Stakes Testing – A quiz which is answered in real time and students have their answers assessed

Chat Box – Students have two ways of asking questions – either via the Chat function in Microsoft Teams during a live lesson or via the messaging function in Classcharts. Staff will be on hand to answer questions throughout their normal lesson time

Practical work – Students complete a practical task under direct supervision from the teacher.

Subject Variation – Subjects may also decide their own methods of live content that is unique to them

The remote curriculum: what is taught to students at home

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of students being sent 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.

Initially, all work will be set via our online system of Classcharts. (www.classcharts.com) As this is our usual way of communicating homework and achievements, this system is well established and students, parents and carers are familiar with using this.

All lessons during the day are provided for and the work appears on the system as 'Remote Learning – 14.01.21'. Students will be expected to match the lesson on the system to their timetable that day. During these first few days, work submission will be carefully monitored to ensure there are no IT issues which could impact the remote learning.

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 PE the lesson may be structured slightly differently. For example, if the emphasis was on Team games which cannot be carried out at home, a different approach may be taken.
- The curriculum may follow a slightly different order to that published on the curriculum maps on our website. This is because staff have identified those areas which may be difficult to teach remotely and therefore have refined their curriculum. Science would be an example of this, where some topic areas require a more practical approach which cannot happen whilst students are working from home.
- All students will be taught by their normal classroom teacher unless there is necessary reason for doing so (for example, a masterclass or staff sickness)

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 students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Years 7 – 9	The expectation is that students study their normal timetable. All students are expected to be studying their lessons at the same time as they usually would, as their teacher will be online during this time. There is an understanding that working at home takes longer than working in the classroom, and therefore most lessons are aiming at 45 minutes to allow overrun and to give students a 10/15 minute break away from the screen between sessions. At least one lesson per week in English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and MFL will be a live lesson. Students may need to evidence the work they have completed by uploading the work via the Classcharts system. Where this is required, teachers will clearly indicate this.
Year 10	Half of the lessons to year 10 will be delivered as 'live lessons'. These lessons are designed to provide input and feedback to the independent work carried out. For the remainder of the lessons in a week, the work will be set daily, on Classcharts. This will take the form of voiced / instructional Powerpoint presentations. Students may need to evidence the work they have completed by uploading the work via the Classcharts system. Where this is required, teachers will clearly indicate this. Live lessons will be approx 45 mins in length and will be at their normal lesson time. The Classcharts work can be completed at a student's discretion, however the class teacher will be available online during their scheduled lesson slot to answer any questions.
Year 11	The significant majority of lessons for Year 11 will include some live content, lasting around 45 minutes. We have taken this decision to ensure we gather maximum evidence towards their GCSE's in the summer and to ensure they have live access to their teacher whilst they are working. Whilst not all live lessons are teacher led, year 11 are expected to log in to each lesson, following their normal timetable

Accessing remote education

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

Classcharts:

www.classchart.com is the first port of call. Here, work will be uploaded daily and students and parents can message their classroom teacher. It is also a way of uploading the work completed and how staff will feedback on the work submitted. All students and parents have a login for this system and if you are unable to access please contact the IT dept.

- Email address: support@warblingtonschool.supportsystem.com
- Telephone via: reception or Helpdesk directly 02392 485163

Microsoft Teams:

www.office.com All students have full access to the Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel and Powerpoint. This is through their normal school login. They also need to access Microsoft Teams for the live lesson content. Any problems with this should be reported via IT as above.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

So far since March 2020, we have loaned out over 120 laptops to those families who have requested them. We recognise that some students may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:

- Laptops are issued when we are alerted to the need. This may come through parental contact, telephone contact from the tutor or inclusion team or through the lack of engagement identified by teachers.
- In the event that internet access is an issue, we have a small supply of 4G dongles which can be issued. By contacting the school, we may be able to apply for an increase in mobile data from your mobile provider to enable access to the live lessons. This should be discussed during the weekly tutor contact.
- If students are still struggling to access online work, and they have been through the remote training sessions with the IT team, they may be asked to come and work in our onsite provision or, in extreme cases they may have printed materials made available. These can be collected or delivered on a weekly basis and are a replica of the work accessed via Classcharts.
- Students are then requested to submit the work by photographing the work and submitting via Classcharts where possible or return the completed paper pack at the beginning of the next week in order to receive feedback. Due to the reduction of staff on-site, it is important to note this method will result in a much longer delay in students received feedback.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Live Teaching

As detailed in the previous section, the amount of live teaching will vary depending on the year group.

Recorded Teaching

This could be in various forms. In cases where the Oak National Academy lessons are deemed suitable, these may be used as part of our curriculum. Narrated PowerPoints may be used and accessed via Classcharts and also a recording of each live lesson taught remains accessible for 20 days via Microsoft Teams.

Printed Workbooks/Materials

In some cases staff may have issued workbooks for students to complete at home. These may be requested to be returned electronically (by photographing the work) or in person.

There may also be access to subject specific websites. For example http://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle is used by the maths department and has video explanations and online worksheets which are used to aid teaching and regularly assess students.

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?

During this time we want students to continue with their education, sticking as much as possible to their timetable. The work set is designed so that if students have the correct equipment (IT facilities and their normal pencil case as part of our expectations) and a workspace, they will be able to work fairly independently.

We ask that you ensure they have the adequate facilities and where they don't, to contact us.

We ask that you expect them to have a full day's learning time put aside

We ask that you ensure they have adequate food and drink to enable them to perform well

We ask that there is a quiet workspace to enable them to concentrate.

We would welcome you getting involved in their learning, supporting and explaining where you can, but we do ask that the work is theirs in order to ensure we continue to assess the students rigorously.

We also ask that you give them some really positive messages when they have done well.

We ask that if your child is unwell and unable to access remote education that day, that you contact the school via the phone or email absence@warblingtonschool.co.uk

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

Staff take a register each lesson to ensure engagement. Where this is a live lesson, an attendance list is downloaded. Where work is on Classcharts, we have two measures – one is a check to see that the work has been accessed and a second to see if work is submitted. Where a lack of engagement is identified, tutors, heads of year and the inclusion team are alerted by our internal system to ensure students do not fall behind.

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

Students will receive feedback for their work in a number of ways:

- Acknowledgement through receiving pride points via Classcharts
- Written feedback via Classcharts on submitted work. This is in line with our normal marking and assessment policy
- Verbal feedback via live lessons
- Chat feedback during online lessons, either via Teams or Classcharts

Feedback will be recorded and stored and form part of the overall assessment for the year. This will be highlighted in the normal termly reports and during the online parent's consultation evening for your child.

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 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 in the following ways:

- Some students may be asked to attend school to work with an assigned member of staff
- Some students may receive differentiated work to help them meet the learning objectives
- Some students may be assigned breakout rooms in live lessons to assist their understanding.

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 simultaneously.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

In this situation, the work students would be completing in school is uploaded to Classcharts and assigned as 'blended learning'. It will take the title of 'Blended Learning – 14.01.21' with the subject and name of the teacher underneath. Students are then asked to follow their normal timetable.

Please be aware, staff may not respond to the chat function as readily as during a lockdown as they will also be teaching the class in front of them.

Please also be aware, as with everything currently, we are adapting processes and procedures constantly in order to find the best way of working. We take feedback from all stakeholders and welcome any ideas and contributions you may have. I would also like thank you for the positive comments so far.

Rest assured, we all want students back in school learning and hope this document is required for as little time as possible.

Mr M Hartnell

Headteacher

January 2021