# Exmouth Community College: 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, please see the final section of this page.

## The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

### 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 Key Stage 3, PE will include some theory lessons as well as asking students to undertake some physical exercise. Technology subjects may also involve a greater amount of research and design work.
* We recognise that remote learning does not always proceed at the same pace as face to face teaching, so departments have prepared which parts of the curriculum are best delivered remotely.
* We will continue to run important events such as Parent/Carer Evenings and Options events. These will be run remotely.

## 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 pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Key Stage 3 and 4  Key Stage 5 | 5 hours per day + twilights  All timetabled lessons + some additional tasks each week. |
| Homework | KS3: We will not normally set any additional tasks.  KS4: Some tasks make take slightly longer than a lesson, but we will not set additional tasks  KS5: Some lessons will set additional tasks each week. |

## Accessing remote education

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

Students should access online education via Microsoft Teams. This is available on RM Unify (from the College Website) or via a downloaded Teams app. It can be accessed through PC/laptop/tablet/phone/X Box/PlayStation.

Staff will also put a short summary on Class Charts so parents and carers can plan the day with their child/children. A brief ‘5 minute’ planning meeting at the start of the day is a helpful way to organise the tasks/resources needed.

### 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:

* The College has some laptops, routers and dongles which it can lend to students. Please contact Mrs Tisbury in College.
* Students can access any printed materials needed if they do not have online access by contacting their Year office/the Pupil Progress team or the SEND team who will make arrangements for material to be provided. If this is not possible we will be able to provide a place in College for students to carry out their remote learning.
* Students who are not able to submit work through a PC/laptop can use a mobile phone to photograph work and attach it to their assignments in Teams. If problems in submitting work persist please contact the Year office/ the Pupil Progress team or the SEND team who will be able to advise.
* If mobile phone data is an issue, please contact us and we can ask your provider for more data.
* Please note that students can access Teams from X-Box and PlayStations.
* Contact details are available on the College website.

### How will my child be taught remotely?

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

* live teaching (online lessons)
* recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers, BBC Bitesize)
* some subjects will refer to printed resources (which are also available online) for example Knowledge Organisers, RE GCSE guides.
* textbooks and reading books pupils have at home/access to online
* commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences. This could include Maths Watch, Kerboodle, Seneca, GCSEPod, Educake etc.
* assignments and quizzes set through Teams.
* shared editing of student work (particularly in KS5).
* smaller group work/tutorials online.
* there may be some long-term project work and/or internet research activities but this will be limited with step by step instructions and monitoring.
* there may be some optional practical tasks that can be carried out with parental supervision (e.g cooking). Theory based alternatives will always be given

## 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 would expect all students to attend live sessions and actively engage when required (by speaking or using chat).
* Students should check the Class Team for assignments, quizzes and posts at the time their lesson is scheduled.
* Parents and carers can support by checking Class Charts each morning, setting routines to support your child’s education and letting us know of any difficulties as soon as possible.
* Encourage students to take proper breaks away from their screens during the day and to get plenty of exercise.

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

* Teachers will be available online when timetabled lessons are in progress so even if a live session is not taking place, support is available.
* Engagement includes respectful conduct online, contributing to class discussions, completing assignments and quizzes, submitting work when requested and carrying out independent study when required.
* We recognise that sometimes students will have difficulty accessing a lesson. If we have a concern about your child’s overall engagement (for example they have missed lessons and not completed any tasks) we will alert you through Class Charts. If the concern continues we will contact you directly to discuss any barriers to learning your child may be experiencing.
* College staff will also be aiming to ring every family each week to see if there are any issues we can support you with.

### 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:

* Most lessons will have some kind of short review activity to help the teacher evaluate the progress made in the lesson.
* Students will be asked to take part in automated quizzes to assess learning.
* Students will also be asked to upload specific assignments for teachers to provide more detailed, individual feedback.
* Teachers will be using features of Teams to monitor attendance, engagement and completion of tasks

## 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:

* Our SEND team will be in contact with all students who have an EHCP to check how they are progressing and to offer support.
* Where we have capacity we will allocate Teaching Assistants to online lessons for additional support.

## 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?

Students who are self isolating while their peers are in school should continue to check their Class Team. In addition they can continue to work on the Knowledge Organisers provided by College.