



WRIGHT ROBINSON COLLEGE

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

The following information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and Parents/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 document.

Wright Robinson College is proud to have achieved 'Certified School Status' and 'Safe Remote Education' accreditation by the National Online Safety organisation.



The remote curriculum: What is taught to students 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 students being sent home?

During any periods of full or partial year group self-isolation, students are required to log-in to Teams and follow their normal school timetable.

Teaching staff will deliver live lessons to students immediately unless there are unforeseen circumstances, in which case assignments will be set which students should complete during their timetabled lesson. Where whole classes are at home, lessons on Teams will start at the timetabled lesson time.

In cases where a partial group of students are isolating, lessons will start as soon as possible but within 5 minutes of the timetabled time. This is to allow staff to set up and join the lesson or to allow for any technical issues.

From February 22nd 2021, remote lessons will finish after 50 minutes to allow students to take a short screen break between lessons.

If students are sent home to isolate part way through the school day, they should log onto Microsoft Teams and follow their timetable as soon as it is practicable.

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?

Students will follow the same remote curriculum as they do in college. Some adaptations have been made to lesson content where remote learning has necessitated this for example when teaching practical elements in certain subjects.

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:

Key Stage 3 and 4	5 x 50 minute lessons per day. The work set will take students approximately 5 hours to complete.
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Accessing remote education

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

All remote lessons will be provided using Microsoft Teams. Students have their own log in details for the platform and have been given support and training on how to access the lessons and resources. Technical support is available during college opening hours via the main college telephone number.

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 students may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:

The college has undertaken an audit of student access to remote learning identifying issues such as accessibility to laptops and the internet etc. and identifying any issues regarding technical competence. The college also wrote to all parents/carers and asked them to contact the college if there were any issues relating to the aforementioned.

As a result of the audit and parental / carer information, the college has to date:

- Loaned laptops to students under the DFE Laptops for Schools Scheme.
- Provided laptops at a subsidised rate through a purchase agreement with the Tablet Academy.
- Provided routers and dongles to families unable to access the internet.
- Allocated a designated portal on the college website providing additional information and technical advice to support remote learning.
- Provided technical support for parents/carers and students.

The college will continue to offer technical support to students and parents / carers by telephone during the college opening hours.

Any parent/carer who feels that their child is not able to access Microsoft Teams, and therefore live lessons, should contact the college immediately.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

Wright Robinson College is proud to have received both 'Certified School Status' by the National Online Safety organisation and to also have been awarded 'Safe Remote Education' Accreditation by the same organisation.

- Students are able to follow their normal school timetable live and are taught the curriculum that they would follow in college.
- Remote lessons are as close as possible to classroom lessons and students are taught their normal curriculum, with an emphasis on new learning. It is therefore vitally important that students attend all timetabled lessons. Students are asked to work in a variety of ways using the technology available through Microsoft Teams and approved third party applications.
- At times, students may be asked to complete work independently, as they would in the classroom. However, when completing independent tasks, they are expected to remain in the online lesson where their teacher will be available to answer any questions or provide support.
- In order that they can receive feedback, students are asked to submit assignments which demonstrate their learning. These will take a variety of forms and will differ according to the requirements of each subject.
- Electronic resources are provided to support teaching and learning
- Assemblies are provided through recorded materials
- Students are encouraged to take part in off-screen activities to support their mental health and physical well-being. These activities are timetabled and signposted.
- During any periods of remote learning, homework will be suspended.
- During any periods of teacher absence, cover lessons will be facilitated in the same way that they would in college.

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?

- The college expects students to log on and follow their timetable and submit work as requested by their teachers.
- We expect parents to encourage their children to follow their timetable and to contact the college if their child does not have access to the required technology or is having difficulties with understanding how to use the technology.
- We encourage parents to attend parents' evening which are provided remotely.
- We expect parents to be aware of the code of conduct for remote learning that their children have signed (copies of this are available on the school website) and to encourage their children to adhere to it and follow the college's Behaviour for Learning policy.

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

- Teaching staff will register students' attendance to remote lessons just as they would in the classroom.
- The college's pastoral staff will contact home to follow up on any absences. Contact will be made both by telephone and by letter if there are concerns about student attendance or engagement.
- Parents evenings will continue remotely
- The college's reporting system will continue although the dates of reports may be amended during periods of remote learning.
- At the end of each half term, parents will receive a letter informing them of how well their child has engaged in remote learning.

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 student work is as follows:

- Students will receive feedback on their work in a variety of ways. During normal classroom teaching students would not receive written feedback on every piece of work that they complete and this remains the same during remote learning.
- As a minimum, students will receive written feedback on one piece of work per subject each week, unless the subject has a smaller curriculum allocation. More detailed feedback will be provided on average every eight lessons according to each department's policy.
- In addition, verbal feedback, self-marking assignments, quizzes, comments in the chat function will be provided by teachers dependent on the subject and content being taught.

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 some 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:

- The college will be in regular contact with the parents/carers of those students with additional needs
- The SENCO will have discussions around specific needs and aim to provide additional support where appropriate. This may be around elements of subject work, or more general guidance.
- All students will remain in the appropriate set with their original teacher, and will therefore receive suitable and challenging work
- Additional resources are also available on the school website for parents/ students
- There are also a small number of students that receive additional support on-site

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.

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

With the possible exception of the first day, there will be no difference. Your child will be expected to log on to Teams and join their classes live.