



Fairfax Remote Education Provision Information for Parents & Carers

At Fairfax Academy we want to support your child with their remote learning during any absence from school in order to ensure they can continue to access the curriculum whilst at home. This plan is dependent on your child being well enough to complete their remote learning activities while at home and we recognise that individual home circumstances vary. Please do keep us informed of any issues with completing work by contacting your child's Head of Year via our email address post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

The information below is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education if 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

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?

It is our intention for students to be receiving lessons through MS Teams on the first day of absence however in some cases in the first two days of absence students may receive work that can be completed independently without teacher input while teachers re-plan their lessons to make them appropriate for online delivery.

During the first two days of absence, all work will be set on Show My Homework and your child will receive work for every timetabled lesson.

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?

Yes, 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, children will be set a weekly PE challenge which may differ from the normal curriculum and in practical subjects such as Art, Design and Technology, Food and Music, adaptations may be made to the normal curriculum to make lessons appropriate for online delivery and completion of tasks at home.

All work will be set on Show My Homework/MS Teams and students will follow their normal school timetable each day.

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 the work set (including remote teaching and independent work) for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to take approximately 5 hours a day to complete while the work set for students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 should take between 5-6 hours a day.

Accessing remote education

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

All work will be set through Show My Homework and MS Teams.

If you, or your child, needs a password for Show My Homework please email FFA-reception@fairfax.fmat.co.uk

If your child needs a password for Microsoft Teams they should email ffastudentremotesupport@fairfax.fmat.co.uk

What if my child does not know how to use Microsoft Teams?

Advice for students on using their Office 365 account and Microsoft Teams can be found here. <http://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/remote-learning/>

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 be able to access online learning resources from home. If your child is in this position please contact post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk as we may be able to loan you a laptop and a device to enable an internet connection for your child to use while absent or we will be able to provide paper-based work that matches the content being taught in lessons. Likewise, if your child is unable to submit work online please contact post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk so that we can arrange for work to be handed into reception.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Students will be set work on Show My Homework and Microsoft Teams and they will follow their normal timetabled lessons each day.
- Lessons will either be taught live through Microsoft Teams or pre-recorded as a narrated PowerPoint.
- During these lessons, teachers will normally spend 20 minutes introducing some new learning and then set a task which allows students to apply the new knowledge they've been taught and demonstrate their understanding.
- Students should expect to be set regular online quizzes to assess their understanding of what they have been taught. Students should also expect to be submitting more extended pieces of work every three to four lessons so that they receive regular feedback from their teachers.
- If your child's teacher is ill and unable to set work then your child will receive independent work to complete during that lesson rather than a narrated PowerPoint or live lesson.

What should my child do if they need to ask their teacher a question about their work?

Your child will be able to ask questions during the live online lessons using the 'Chat' function in MS Teams. They can also send a message to their teacher via Show My Homework at any time. To do this they must be logged into their own Show My Homework account and not a parent account. Only a personal student account will enable your child to ask the teacher questions via the SMH message function.

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?

Students are expected to follow their normal timetable from home and complete their learning activities for each subject during the day in their normal lesson time.

You can support your child by setting normal routines for them during the day, for example, a fixed time to take a break and ensure that they eat and drink regularly to maintain concentration.

What if my child wants more work?

Your child can request more work by messaging their teacher through Show My Homework or you are welcome to email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk to request more work. We would also recommend that your child makes use of the online lessons that are available on the Oak National Academy website <https://www.thenational.academy/>. These online lessons have been made freely available specifically for students who are self-isolating across the country.

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

Registers will be taken during Teams lessons. These will be monitored on a daily basis and you will be informed by text message/phone call if your child is not attending online lessons.

Teachers also use Show My Homework to monitor submissions of work and completion of online quizzes. If we have concerns about your child's completion of work while working at home we will contact you by phone.

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 be set regular online quizzes which are marked online and provide immediate feedback to the student and the teacher.
- Students will be asked to submit key pieces of work for feedback. This feedback may be delivered as whole class feedback during a live Teams lesson.
- Students should receive feedback on a task that they have completed independently at least once every three or four lessons.

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:

- Students with SEND will continue to access the full breadth of their curriculum.
- Weekly communication will be made with parents to ensure that students with SEND are making good progress.
- Students who are finding online learning challenging may be provided with additional support materials for working at home, may be invited into school to gain face to face support or may be allocated some time on Teams with a TA to support them with their learning.

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?

Your child's teacher will be informed that they are self-isolating at the end of the day that their absence was reported. This means that a student's first day of absence will look different from our normal approach. On the first day of absence, while students are awaiting work from their teacher students who are self-isolating should access English, Maths and Science resources appropriate for their year group at the Oak National Academy website here: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

By the start of the second day of absence your child's teachers will have contacted them via Show My Homework to provide them with the work from any lessons they have missed the previous day and your child's teacher's will set work on a daily basis for the remainder of their absence to ensure that they can broadly follow the same curriculum as they would have done if they had been in school.

In some cases, particularly for exam groups, teachers will live-stream their lessons using Microsoft Teams. Students should check Show My Homework each day to see if their teacher has notified them that the lesson will be live streamed.

Students should submit work for feedback while they are absent. They can do this by attaching a file to a message to their teacher on Show My Homework. If your child has handwritten their work, they can take a photo of it on their phone and then attach this photo so that their teacher can provide feedback on their work.

Your child can request more work by messaging their teacher through Show My Homework. You are also welcome to email classwork@fairfax.bham.sch.uk to request more work. We would also recommend that your child makes use of the online lessons that are available on the Oak National Academy website <https://www.thenational.academy/> if they want more work. These online lessons have been made freely available specifically for students who are self-isolating across the country.

When they return to school we would encourage your child to be proactive and to do the following:

- Show their teachers work completed during remote learning period (if they haven't submitted it via Show My Homework).
- Ask for any resources they have missed during this time.
- Asks their teacher for advice if they are experiencing any difficulties with the content of lessons on their return to school.

Finally, we know that some students will find remote learning a challenge. Whilst we encourage students to do all they can, we do not want students to become overly anxious about falling behind or not managing all of the work set. Equally, there may be issues with access to technology at home that might mean remote learning is a challenge. Please let us know if remote learning is becoming a challenge for your child by informing your child's tutor in the first instance.

If your child is self-isolating and you have further questions that have not been answered here please email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk .