



Midsomer Norton
Schools Partnership
The Sixth Form

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students 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 students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

If you have any queries regarding this please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form on sixthformadmin@msnsixth.com or 01761 402280.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils 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 Sixth Form students expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

Google classrooms are already set up for every student so they can access work from home. Students will use google classroom to access their learning online. All work that is set will be delivered through the Google Classroom. Students will be familiar with this, but if they need support in doing this then they should contact the Sixth Form on 01761 402280.

As soon as remote education is required, students will already know where to access a virtual subject classroom, how to log on, and how the lesson will be stored for them to access at a later date.

Students will follow the same timetable as in school, and will be able to access the live lesson link from their Google classroom.

There will be no delay in moving from lessons in school to remote lessons at home, apart from situations where there is no prior warning, and then work will be posted, and then moved to live lessons once staff have suitable technology. This should take no longer than a day.

There will be work and assignments set for each lesson on their timetable. Students are expected to follow their normal timetable and to log onto their subject classroom

for each lesson. There will be tasks set and in some cases videos for students to watch which teachers have pre-recorded.

In these first few days it is important that students who are unable to access the appropriate technology to access live lessons from home contact the Sixth Form, so that the Sixth Form can arrange some support with this.

After the first day, all lessons will have a live component from teachers. They will as a minimum have a google meet at the start and end of every lesson. The teacher will be available throughout the lesson either in the google meet or contactable via email to support students.

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 be taught the same curriculum remotely as we do when the students are in school. Students completing practical courses, such as Art or Technology, may find that the different aspects of the course may be covered, if the practical work they are working on cannot be completed from home.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take students each day?

We expect that students have the same amount of work to complete each day as they would in the classroom. This will mean they work between 9am and 3:25pm each day, with the usual breaks. This is equivalent to 6 x 50 minutes. This is equivalent to 5 hours. We would normally expect students to also complete some independent study on a normal day after school, so on average we would expect students to complete approximately 6 hours a day on average including both lessons and independent study..

Accessing remote education

How will students access any online remote education you are providing?

All students will use Google Classroom and their Google Drive to access their lessons. Some teachers may post some of their videos for students on youtube to improve streaming quality but these links will always be posted on the google classroom. Some subjects may also use other online learning resources, but these will be the same as those used when in school. For example, Unifrog which is used to support students in planning destinations.

If students do 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 Sixth Form can lend Chrome books and headphones/ microphones to students. If a student wishes to borrow any form of technology or if they have having trouble accessing any online resources then they should contact MS Grainger in the first instance on 01761 402280 or sixthformadmin@msnsixth.com
- The loan of devices that enable an Internet connection can be arranged where necessary. More commonly, we can assist by making an application for an increased data allowance (in some cases unlimited) through parents' existing providers. Information regarding this has been shared with parents and requests should be made through house staff.
- In exceptional circumstances and despite our best efforts, a small number of students may still not be able to access online classes. In this case, printed material will be made available for collection from main reception. Requests should be made through house staff and completed work will be collected at main reception and forwarded to subject staff.

Google Technical Toolkit for Families Google has put together some guidance so you know what to expect when students are online using the Google environment. The document includes links to a series of videos that help explain the various aspects of learning that could happen within Google, a Glossary of terms, ideas and suggestions for family engagement and a FAQ section.

https://services.google.com/fh/files/misc/techtoolkit_familiesandguardians.pdf

- Accessing printed materials - If a student is unable to access online materials or requires printed materials to support their learning then the Sixth Form will arrange for these to be provided for students. These can either be posted home or collected from the reception on one of the sites. The Sixth Form can also provide items such as stationary and folders which students may need to support their studies and these can be collected in the same way. Students who require any additional materials should contact Ms Grainger on 01761 402280 or sixthformadmin@msnsixth.com in the first instance.
- Students are also able to submit work to teachers physically by handing in the work at any of the main receptions or by posting the work into school if they wish to do this.
- Students can also still borrow textbooks and resources from the library if they require them and this can be arranged by contacting Ms Grainger on the contact details listed above.

- Students can also use our online library to support their learning details of how to access this are available on the google classroom for each year group and also on the MSN Sixth website. If students have any queries they can contact Ms Fortune on cfortune@nortonhillschool.com.

How will students be taught remotely?

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

All lessons will run as per the present timetable.

Each lesson will take place in a live Google meet.

Each lesson will begin with a live introduction and conclusion, which will last for at least 10 minutes. This will allow the teacher to explain the task and resources, and take any questions.

The remainder of the lesson will involve the students completing the task. They are expected to remain in the Google meet in most lessons, unless directed otherwise by the teacher.

The teacher will remain in the Google meet for the duration of the lesson. They will use this time to do one of the following:

- Support the class by taking general questions and giving general feedback
- Observe the work of students as they are completing it, and provide a mixture of specific feedback to the individual, or general feedback to the class based on misconceptions identified
- Work with students in 'breakout' rooms, where specific support can be given

There will be a mixture of work tasks to complete, or further videos to watch that make up the remainder of each lesson.

Engagement and feedback

What are your expectations for student's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

We expect all students to attend their lessons as they would do if they were in school and to take appropriate breaks between these away from their screen. Students have a clear timetable they use in school which will have independent study periods highlighted. Students should share this with their parents so that they are aware of their allocated study time.

Students are also encouraged to take a break from their screens on a regular basis, at least 5 minutes every hour, and teachers will encourage students to do this within lesson times.

Students should also attend any tutor mentoring sessions they are invited to and the weekly tutor group google meet session.

We would hope that parents would support students with this by discussing student's routines/ lessons for each day with them and encouraging them to get in touch with the Sixth Form pastoral team if there are any issues or concerns.

We encourage students to keep to a set routine whilst studying from home and to start their studies at 9am and to try not to work beyond 5pm. We have encouraged students to try to put work away so they attempt to have as much of a separation between school and home life as possible.

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

Registers are taken for each lesson and the Sixth Form will contact parents where students have missed a lesson to check on their well being and also to ensure there are no issues they need support with.

Subject teachers will contact parents if homework is not submitted or if they have a concern about the progress of the student and will work with parents to put a support plan in place.

Information on the quality of Sixth Form students engagement is collected every two weeks whilst students are working from home. This is analysed by the pastoral team and students and parents are contacted to pass on praise for their efforts or alternatively contacted if it seems that additional support is required.

The Sixth Form sends out a weekly parent/ student update to keep both parents and students informed on opportunities and upcoming events. In addition, their parents are sent a weekly summary from all of the subject google classrooms so that they can see what work is being set and also opportunities and information sent to the students.

How will you assess students' 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:

- o Informal questions and discussions in Google meets
- o General feedback on progress where appropriate; this may include annotated work to provide guidance to allow students to progress. This should be given at least once a fortnight.
- o Specific feedback on progress in an assessment, using a WWW (What Worked Well) and an EBI (Even Better If) style comment. Assessments are expected to continue remotely and these will take place each half term. Due to the nature of 'posting' feedback, students will receive a positive (WWW) and a point of improvement (EBI), although it may not be explicitly labelled as this.

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:

Where students have a allocated Teaching Assistant in school, they are in contact with students on a daily basis to support them with planning their learning and will join google meet lessons as required.

The Sixth Form pastoral team is in regular contact with SEND students to ensure that they are able to access lessons and to assess if any additional support is required.

Parents and students are encouraged to contact the Pastoral Team if they feel any further additional support is required or if there are any further difficulties.

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

If a student is self-isolating then they will join the lessons in school via a chrome book. The teacher will invite them through a google meet in their subject classroom and post the resources they will need there. Students will then be able to question the teacher and access the lesson in the same manner as the students in the lesson.

If due to the practical nature of the lesson this is not possible then work will be set for the student on the google classroom to allow them to cover the same material as much as possible.

Students will submit their work, via the google classroom, and will receive the same feedback as the students who are in school.

Teachers will then meet with the student who has been self-isolating on their return to school to ensure that they are confident in the content that has been taught in their absence and will assess if additional support is needed.

All subjects offer after school support sessions, when students return into school they can use these to access any additional support they may need.