



# Stanchester Academy

## 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.

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

A pupil's first day 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. We write to parents providing remote teaching information within the first 24 hours after school or year group/'bubble' closure.

The curriculum provided during periods of remote teaching aims to follow our planned curriculum as closely as possible. However, in some subjects it may be necessary to make adaptations to enable the lessons to be delivered online; for example, in practical or vocational subjects. In the vast majority of subjects, teachers continue with the planned curriculum but at a slightly slower pace.

### Remote teaching and study time each day

During periods of remote teaching, students follow their usual school time table. Lessons have a 'live' session with the usual class teacher, for a maximum of 30 minutes, followed by a follow up Assignment. Students are advised to 'turn in' their work at the end of the timetabled lesson and no later than 5pm that day. This is to support students with their personal organisation and to enable teachers to review student work and adapt their teaching before the next lesson.

### Accessing remote education

Remote education is provided via Microsoft Teams. Instructions for how to log in to Teams and a basic user guide can be found on the college website:

<https://www.stanchester-academy.co.uk/news/parent-update-18-december-htm>

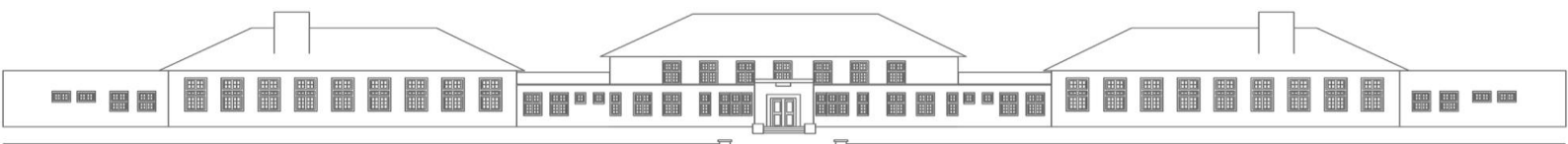
We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. Stanchester Academy has provided close to 100 laptops to families who identified IT hardware as a barrier to accessing remote education. Students' tutors and key workers contact home at least fortnightly and are able to identify and discuss any concerns or issues. When IT issues occur, laptops are distributed as soon as we are able to procure them.

### Support for students experiencing difficulty with accessing IT and using Teams

If your child is struggling to navigate Teams or has a specific Teams training need, please encourage your child to ask their tutor for support or, alternatively, contact the college to request an invitation to a Teams training workshop.

IT support is available to all students by contacting the BTCT IT Helpdesk at:

[bct.helpdesk@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:bct.helpdesk@educ.somerset.gov.uk) or calling **01935 676 255** to leave a voicemail and we will help



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as much as we can. When contacting the helpdesk, make sure you leave your name and contact number.

### **How will my child be taught remotely?**

Teachers use a combination of the following approaches in addition to 'live' lessons. These include using pre-recorded teaching clips; providing printed resources or booklets to support the 'live' lessons; using web based learning packages such as Seneca; using text books and resources that students have been issued to keep at home.

All students have the option to complete classwork on paper or in their exercise book which they can use to handwrite their work if they wish. This method of completing work helps to reduce screen time and better reflects the normal way of working in school for the vast majority of pupils. When handwriting work, students can photograph or scan in their work at the end of the day and 'turn in' their work via the Assignments function on Teams.

### **Engagement and feedback to parents**

We expect students to follow their usual timetable and attend all 'live' lessons. Registers are taken in each session. Engagement in independent work is monitored by tracking how much work a student is 'turning in' each week.

When the school has concerns about a student's attendance to 'live' lessons and/or engagement with assignments, contact is made with parents to see if there is anything we can do to support with learning at home.

Parents can track the assignments set for students using the Teams app on a mobile, tablet or computer. You will need to use the same log in details as your child and can access a summary of the assignments due by using the 'Activity' tab on the left-hand menu bar or for a more detailed view, the 'Assignments' tab.

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

Teachers review student work after each lesson and feedback is provided at least once every four lessons in line with the school feedback policy.

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. For example, a whole-class feedback lesson reviewing common errors and misconceptions or a quiz marked automatically via a digital platform provide valid and effective feedback during remote teaching.

### **Additional support for pupils with particular needs**

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 are working with parents and carers to support those pupils by providing a weekly contact with a key worker. In addition, some students and families are provided with 1:1 support as needed.

### **Improving remote teaching provision**

We seek to provide the very best remote teaching provision for our students. We recognise that each family will face different challenges during remote teaching and therefore regularly provide students and their parents with opportunities to provide us with feedback. All parents/carers are

phoned fortnightly during periods of whole school closure and students are provided with frequent opportunities to feedback their experiences of teaching during fortnightly tutor time sessions and more formally via online surveys.

### **Remote education for individual self-isolating pupils**

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate for more than 3 days, but the majority of their peer group remains in school, the school will liaise with parents and provide work which broadly matches the planned curriculum.

Students will receive a daily phone call, involving a welfare check and discussion of home learning.