Remote education provision: Information for Parents

Introduction

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents about what to expect from remote education when students are unable to attend school due to an emergency closure.

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 aim to teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school as much as is possible and appropriate. We recognise that the specific special educational needs of our children mean that often the priority for parents is ensuring their children remain settled and safe at home and therefore remote learning may need to look different to what is taking place at school. There will be times when we will need to make some amendments to ensure our remote learning provision is not placing too much pressure on students.

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 the remote education that is provided will take students approximately three hours each school day, plus reading time. Our priority for students is to be settled and ready to learn. Our students' SEN needs may mean they are anxious and concerned about not being at school, therefore please focus on their wellbeing at home and do not put additional pressure on yourself or them to engage in the full amount of provision. Your child's teacher will be in frequent contact with you so please alert them immediately of any concerns about the provision.

Assessing remote education

We will aim to use Google Classroom to set, monitor and assess work digitally. Where possible we will deliver Chrome books to all families who need them in order to access digital remote learning. We have a few families who have requested paper-based learning materials when the school is closed, and these will be posted to your home.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We will use a variety of methods to teach our children and young people remotely:

- Recorded teaching by teachers at Orion Academy with videos being posted on Google Classroom
- Google Classroom's interactive suite including quizzes, forms and sharing of documents
- Recorded teaching from other sources such as Oak National Academy Lessons, BBC Bitesize
- Printed paper packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Reading books that children already have with them at home
- Digital tutor times with individual students at home (phone calls will be made to the very few students who are not using Google Classroom)

Engagement and feedback

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

As mentioned above, the absolute priority for our children and young people is to be settled and happy at home. We fully understand the anxiety and worry that our parents may be experiencing about the pressures of remote learning on children with SEND. We know that our children and young people can find independent work to be challenging and therefore we aim to set work that is manageable and realistic to achieve with minimum support from parents who may be working form home as well as supporting their child's learning. Please do not put yourself or your family under any additional pressure and instead contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns about the school's expectations.

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

Children's engagement will be monitored via Google Classroom or by daily phone calls for any children who are only using paper-based materials. Our teachers will make frequent phone calls to parents when the school is closed.

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

Children's work will be assessed mainly using Google Classroom – including quizzes and forms. Teachers will mark individual work that is submitted or shared with them. We will also assess paper-based learning and have arranged for work to be collected

and returned to children's homes for the few children who are not accessing Google Classroom.

How will you work with me to help my child who need additional support from adults at home to access remote education?

All our children have SEND. However, not all students will require additional support from adults at home to access our remote education provision. Our teachers are setting work that is manageable and realistic for our children to do with minimum input from parents at home. Work will be set that takes into account a child's individual needs and work will be differentiated accordingly. Any child who is experiencing challenges with accessing learning at home will be contacted by their teacher who is available to support them and who will adapt the learning for the needs of individual students.