



NKS Remote Learning Policy 2021

Miss Neale (AHT) - Designated SLT lead

The information below is designed to support understanding of what pupils, parents and carers should expect during periods of school closure or pupil isolation relating to coronavirus (COVID-19).

It is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents/carers about what to expect from remote education if local or national restrictions require the whole school or entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home.

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. Notwithstanding this work will be set via Satchel:One or emailed directly to students, matching the normal curriculum as closely as possible.

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 wherever possible and appropriate. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, in some practical subjects it may be that the equipment normally used within a subject curriculum is unavailable to students at home. In other cases there may be some sensitive issues of study/content, such as are found in Personal Development, which are more appropriately delivered face to face in class.

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 all our students would be provided with around 5 hours of learning activities and study per day, in line with their normal timetable in Years 7-11 with additional homework and independent research where it is deemed appropriate. Sixth Form students will also receive their timetabled lessons remotely and be expected to pursue additional independent study as we would expect in conventional circumstances.

Accessing remote education

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

The existing timetable will be delivered via Teams by teachers and attendance at every lesson is expected and will be registered. The timing of lessons will be the same as on a normal school day and students will be expected to be punctual and ready to participate – equipped with the relevant texts and exercise books, pens and pencils, etc. – and logging into the session via Teams. Whilst the lessons will be hosted in Teams, lesson materials will be posted on Satchel:One unless otherwise stated.

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 pupils may not have suitable or reliable online access at home. If you have any issues around the provision of devices for your son/daughter, please contact the school as soon as possible so that we can assist - this may be in terms of providing

actual laptops/tablets, applying for additional data allowances, 4G routers or in giving technical advice. The school will always remain open to vulnerable children, including those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home and those of key workers in line with any government guidance in place.

Please contact NKS at vcorker@nks.kent.sch.uk for further information.

How will my child be taught remotely?

The nature of the work set in any lesson will vary. This is a blended approach - on some occasions, students will be working independently on set tasks, but will always be able to check their understanding and ask questions of the teacher. On others there will be whole class presentations and discussions. We are conscious of the negative impact of constant screen time and this blended approach seeks to strike a sensible balance – for both colleagues and students.

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach students remotely; this *blended* approach draws on high quality live sessions, independent research/tasks/activities to apply and develop skills, knowledge and understanding alongside opportunities for questioning:

- teacher leads students through a range of activities
- online lecture or demonstration
- an initial coming together and setting of task before students work independently
- question and answer sessions
- reading, group discussion and plenary
- work is set at the start or in advance and teacher remains available for any questions towards the end of the session

Independent work and activities may utilise or feature:

- recorded teaching (e.g. Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers)
- electronic packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books students have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences
- long-term project work

If staff members are unwell or otherwise absent due to unforeseen circumstances, we will endeavour to communicate this in advance and students should complete the work on Satchel:One independently. If students are unwell or otherwise absent due to unforeseen circumstances, they should endeavour to catch up with the missed work independently.

We will continue to deliver and send links to assemblies.

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?

We expect that all students attend all lessons and let us know as soon as they can if and why they are unable to do so due to illness, technical problems, etc.

We expect students to engage fully in lessons and they should:

- Keep their cameras off and be muted (unless they are asked to unmute their microphones)
- Use the hands up icon to ask a question or use the messaging element to ask questions if there is no mic or it is not working
- Aim to complete set work to given deadlines
- As far as possible stick to the timings and routines of the normal school day and complete the work within the time frame of the timetabled lesson

Please discuss our expectations with your son/daughter and ensure that they are ready for learning each day. Encourage them to contact their teachers, Student Support Managers and Achievement Leaders if they need further support. In addition there will be members of the School's Senior Leadership Team in school every day who can be contacted via information@nks.kent.sch.uk or by phoning the school. We will make contact if we have concerns with student attendance, completion of work or engagement in lessons – not in a 'punitive' manner but in order to understand what the issues may be and to endeavour to provide support to resolve them.

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

Feedback will take many forms, including the following: whole class feedback, individual comments on pieces of work, online quizzes, live discussion, termly assessed tasks, suggestions for bespoke extension tasks/reading, etc.

In terms of assessed work our usual assessment framework continues to apply and colleagues will let students know which pieces of work should be submitted for assessment.

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. Please contact our Inclusion Manager, Mr Uttin, with any concerns and we will provide all the support we can. Where appropriate this may include a referral to our School Counsellors.

Please contact puttin@nks.kent.sch.uk for further information.

Remote education for individual 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 differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in school.

We will continue to provide clear subject-specific work on Satchel:One in accordance with students' normal timetables; students will be sent relevant materials used during lessons and expected to complete all work to a high standard.

Approved by Education Committee: 27th January 2021

