Nightingale Community Academy: Remote education provision, Information for parents

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The following document will provide information to parents about the online offer during COVID lockdown. It is understood that these are difficult times, and that learning from home can be equally difficult. As Nightingale Community Academy (NCA) is a special school, please understand that the school is open and your child is expected to attend. The school endeavors to keep the highest of standards in regards to the health and safety of your child and provides regular testing to both pupils and staff members (please see COVID guidance on website). Should there be extenuating circumstances which requires your pupil to learn from home, the following guidance should provide assistance on our offer, and how to access the resources online.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's early experience 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. The school is currently using the program Microsoft TEAMS to provide the offer. We are currently in process of updating our online system to Google Classrooms and will provide regular updates to parents as we prepare to launch the new system. In as much as possible, NCA aims to provide the entirety of the core curriculum (English, Maths & Science) as well as a range of other subjects and enrichment activites.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

Microsoft TEAMS will be available to parents and pupils from day one of remote learning. Passwords and instructions have been sent to all parents and welfare calls will be made to ensure that you have the understanding and resources to engage with the online offer. Initially, only core subjects will be made available to students, as other subjects prepare resources for the site.

Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would in school?

We try to 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, (humanities, PSHE, PE, therapeutic services, farming, and other practical subjects) have had to be put on pause because of the nature of the course and the available staffing.

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 remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Key Stage 1	3 Hours
Key Stage 2	4 Hours
Key Stage 3 and 4	4 Hours+ Key Stage 4 pupils who would be sitting examinations will need to complete coursework in order to provide an evidence base for teacher assessed grades.

Accessing remote education

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

Microsoft TEAMS will be the sole platform for providing online education to pupils.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We recognize that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

Should you have difficultly in accessing the online offer, parents are advised to do the following:

- Check emails to ensure that passwords and instructions have been sent. Follow instructions to engage with the online offer

- Please contact the school office directly should there be difficulties logging in. An administrator will connect you to an IT specialist to assist

- Should parents not have access to laptops/internet in the household, please contact the school office to arrange to receive a pupil laptop from the school

- Once contacted, the school will arrange for a laptop to be collected from the school. Please allow 2 working days for the laptop to be prepared and collected for the pupil

- All laptops provided are to be used during COVID lockdown. They will need to be signed for and returned when school returns to normal. Parents and pupils are responsible for the care and maintenance of borrowed computers, and will be financially responsible should computers be damaged due to accidents and negligence.

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

The school will use the following online approaches to learning each week for pupils

- Online packs of work, organised by subject

- Clear instructions for pupils and parents to follow

- Online worksheets which can be printed for pupils

- Presentations with multimedia links such as audio/video

- Commercially available websites, lessons, resources, supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences

- Support for students and parents to communicate with teachers directly via TEAMS

- Weekly objectives of work for pupils to complete and submit to teachers

- Weekly one to one feedback between teachers and students on the work provided, including next steps

- Clear expectations for Key Stage 4 pupils on the evidence needed for GCSE subjects

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 engage with the online offer and complete, where possible, the work and objectives set out

- In higher key stages a workbook should be used to take necessary notes for future lessons and assessment

- Where there are issues of understanding, whether the subject content, or issues with using TEAMS, pupils and parents are expected to reach out, either through TEAMS or the school office to request support

- Parents are expected to assist by providing pupils a space to work quietly. Parents are asked to help pupils to create a routine of work throughout the day in order to meet course objectives

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

In this section, please set out briefly:

- Work for the week will be uploaded each Monday on TEAMS

- Students are expected to submit work once a week, through TEAMS. Work is typically expected each week on a Thursday,

- Teachers will ring pupils each Friday to provide feedback on subjects

- Where there are concerns on the ability to work efficiently from home, form tutors will ring parents to discuss on Fridays

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 engage with online quizzes and tests which provide immediate feedback
- Students will submit work weekly on TEAMS, which will be feedback to pupils by teachers on a Friday
- Teachers will provide students with what went well in their assessments, as well as feedback on how to improve work
- Teachers may ask pupils to correct or add to their work, in addition to the following weeks objectives

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 our pupils have a wide range Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), and that they 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 families find the online offer difficult to engage with, please contact the school directly so that we may help to create a more holistic plan for the pupil
- Where needed the school can provide additional one to one support, differentiated resources, and printed materials as needed

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?

As the most pupils are still attending NCA during lockdown, please be aware that the majority of school effort and resources have been expended to support these students. The school will endeavour to provide a complete education package for online learning, though the level of individual support which students are typically able to take advantage of in school, will clearly not be available in an equitable and comprehensive way at home. The school will support pupils and parents who are having difficulty online and through telephone conversation but our strong recommendation is that pupils attend school as normal.