

Remote education provision: Information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity for students and parents so they know what to expect from remote education where, as a result of national and local restrictions the whole school, or significant numbers, need to remain at home.

The provision for individual students who are self-isolating while the rest of the school is open is set out at the end of this document.

The remote curriculum: What is taught to students at home?

When students are accessing their schoolwork from home, the school will provide a curriculum which matches as closely as possible the one which is taught in school. Individual teachers will continue to guide their students through the same content. We shall aim to cover sufficient examination content so that students are able to learn the material irrespective of whether or not they are externally examined. This is so that students in Year 11 may continue to progress, for example, to our sixth form to study A levels.

We believe good teaching is achievable irrespective of the media through which it is being delivered. We shall modify our approach to maximise the opportunities presented by information technology while continuing to make work motivating, ability appropriate, and academically rigorous.

How will my child be taught remotely?

The school has a long-standing commitment to contemporary learning. We were early adopters of laptops for learning, pioneering work alongside Toshiba from 2001. We remain one of the few secondary schools in Hampshire and further afield to offer all students an iPad when starting KS3. While some schools have had to move more quickly in recent times to put in place online learning with products from Microsoft or Google, our experience has led us to advocate a blended approach using Firefly and Zoom. Firefly is a high-end virtual learning environment considered to be of Rolls Royce standard by many in the education sector.

All work will be set via Firefly and students should follow their normal timetable each day. It is important that they are ready to work with all their equipment at the beginning of each of their lessons. Lessons will last approximately an hour. We will try to set the correct amount of work for each student but never less than they would achieve in class. Work will be set daily and students are encouraged to make use of the planner function in Firefly as this will present the work spread across a day in manageable blocks.

The classroom teacher is responsible for providing the lessons for their students, this may include face-to-face teaching using Zoom. Zoom invitations will be sent using Firefly links. Work will be clearly labelled so it is clear when it includes a Zoom component. With our blended approach we shall aim to provide a 1:4 livestreamed input as a minimum.

We will continue to offer some 1:1 online learning, for example, peripatetic music lessons and catch-up intervention. The Brilliant Club will continue to operate.

Students and staff have been trained in using Firefly and Zoom and must adhere to the school's LiveStreaming Policy. Regard must be given to eSafety (safeguarding online).

Please remember school staff have been deployed to teach remotely, and cover each bubble of the on-site support school. We and our families are not immune to the impact of the virus, and teachers and support staff are also, in many instances, caring for their own children. We will do our best with the resources available to us, but it will not be business as normal.



Online Learning - Firefly

Engagement and feedback

Students are expected to be fully engaged with their learning, following all their teacher's instructions, completing all the tasks set to the best of their ability, and doing their best to engage in question and answer sessions when they are asked to. We are grateful to parents and carers who are helping to establish good routines for home working.

Individual teachers will give feedback to students in a number of ways. These will include verbal feedback during zoom time when students can self-mark and/or be guided to improving their work by their teacher; by submitting work in an assignment on Firefly; by submitting work via email; or by using online platforms with inbuilt assessment such as Corbett Maths. Each teacher will guide their students through the process they want them to follow. The firefly platform enables teachers to award marks and give feedback, be it generic for a class or bespoke for an individual. Students can also improve and re-submit their work.

Parent Teacher Consultation Evenings (Progress Evenings, Open Events, Options Evenings) will be conducted by video link using the Parental Booking system.

When an individual student is self-isolating

When the school is fully open but a student has to self-isolate the following procedure will apply:

For the first day of isolation teachers will set work on Firefly by the end of the day that corresponds to the work for the lesson they have taught. This work will need to be completed by the student's next lesson. This process will continue each day during the self-isolation such that the student is in effect working no more than a day behind.

For some sixth-form lessons, the teacher will be able to place the work on Firefly and occasionally share the lesson, or elements of it, via Zoom. They will let the student know if that is the case.

The school has employed a support tutor with specific responsibility of supporting students who are self-isolating. See below for details.

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

We are acutely aware of the educational divide that occurs between those with and without access to information technology. The school has employed a dedicated Covid Support Tutor, Miss Chanella Luz, to work with families to overcome these barriers. Please contact c.luz@arnewood.hants.sch.uk if you require assistance. Miss Luz will assist students who are self-isolating by supporting teachers get work into the hands of children who cannot access it by other means.

Our IT Services Team have ample loan equipment for students requiring help. We have the facility to help provide internet connectivity for those experiencing technical problems or financial hardship.

Additional support for pupils with specific needs

Students with the highest level of need and who therefore have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are entitled to attend school during the lockdown. Each of these students has an allocated key member of learning support staff to help them. If these students opt to work from home, they will regular support from their key member of staff from the learning support team.

Other students with additional needs will have their engagement and progress with remote learning closely tracked and additional support will be offered if there are any difficulties. This would involve support from the SENCO and Learning Support Assistants and closer liaison with home. We can also provide access to assistive technology such as a computer reader.

As an inclusive school and we expect the vast majority of students to be able to access the remote learning. Teachers are regularly reminded of students' individual needs and are encouraged to make their remote lessons accessible to all learners.

Pastoral and Wellbeing

The Pastoral Team, through your child's tutor and the head of year, are always on hand to offer support and guidance. During periods of school closure tutors will contact their students at least once a week. We will arrange weekly Zoom tutor periods and periodic virtual assemblies.

Working from devices all day can be exhausting. Therefore, it is important to take some time away from the screen and to get some fresh air and exercise. We ask parents and carers to make sure their child has some time away from a screen in-between their lessons.

If you or your child have any concerns about their wellbeing, please email you son/daughter's head of year or in emergencies safeguarding@arnewood.hants.sch.uk. We work closely with partners in Hampshire Social Services, and Lymington Food Bank. We can discreetly assist any family in hardship during this challenging time.

We will provide lateral flow COVID tests (LFT) for students and staff in school in line with guidance and training provided by the NHS. All testing staff will be appropriately trained and qualified. Appropriate consent will be obtained for those being tested. Students aged 16 and over may give their own consent. Students do not have to be tested in order to attend the school although we encourage the school community to work together to maintain our mutual wellbeing.



Lateral Flow Testing