

Policy Addendum

St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy

Remote Education Policy: Addendum

Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency for Students and Parents or Carers about what to expect from remote education at St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home. It is to be read in conjunction with the Academy's Remote Education Policy.

Information about what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, is also included in this document.

The remote curriculum key questions:

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 whilst we take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching. However, Students will be provided work- either in its physical form or on ShowMyHomework as required.

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

- Students will be set work on ShowMyHomework for all lessons they may have over the next few days/ the full length of time they may be learning remotely (depending upon whether this date is known).
- Students may be set additional provision via Learning Platforms such as Century, Tassomai, MathsWatch, Educake and this will automatically be marked and feedback provided on the platform.
- ALL Students should have a computer/device and internet access since this is provided by the school if Students do not have this at home and, therefore, all should be able to work remotely.



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 teach the same planned curriculum remotely as we do in school. This means that Students will receive Classwork in line with their usual curriculum hours when in school. In the first instance, this would be work set on ShowMyHomework for Periods 1-3.
- Following this, Students would follow their usual in school timetable for Periods 1-3 and take part in additional enrichment opportunities, which are not covered during the P1-3 timeframe to ensure that Students still have a broad and balanced curriculum.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?

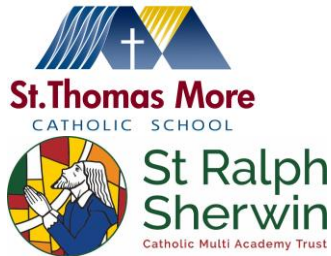
Key Stage 3	5 hours remote learning. (Minimum of three hours 45 minutes of Live Lessons with remainder time working independently to complete tasks explained and set in Live Lessons). Independent work will also include learning platforms and enrichment work.
Key Stage 4	5 hours remote learning. (Minimum of three hours 45 minutes of Live Lessons with remainder time working independently to complete tasks explained and set in Live Lessons). Independent work will also include learning platforms and enrichment work.

Accessing remote education

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

Students will access work and communicate with their teachers through ShowMyHomework using the messaging feature. They will also access Live Lessons on MStears for their specific classes and, when they have Year group or Enrichment activities, these will be in the 'Teams Space' / 'Calendar'. Students have a school email through Office365 that they can communicate with teachers and check understanding, as well as for access to Office for Word, PowerPoint etc. if required.

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 online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

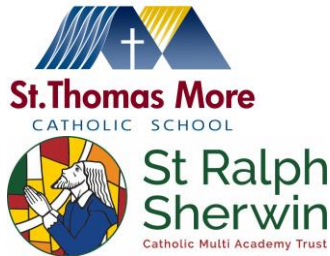
- *We will issue or lend laptops or tablets to any pupil who does not have computer access at home.*
- *We issue or lend devices that enable an internet connection (for example SIM cards and can increase mobile data where necessary).*
- *It is not necessary to print materials as documents are editable on ShowMyHomework and Office.*
- *However, if pupils require hard copies of resources or textbooks, they can request these here: enquiries@st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk and they will be sent via post.*
- *If Students need additional reading books or set texts, Parents or Students can contact school directly at enquiries@st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk and a range of appropriately levelled books, based upon the Students' interests, will be provided.*
- *Students can submit work to their teachers on ShowMyHomework.*
- *If Parents require support with any ICT equipment, please contact the school on: enquiries@st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk*

For support with access to online learning please contact the school on: 01298 23167. Alternatively, you can contact staff via email.

How will my child be taught remotely?

All Students can access remote learning provision for all 5 hours of the school day.

- Each year group follows their usual timetable in school Periods 1-3 and attend Live Lessons through MSTEams. (This will be under the class name for that subject).
- Lesson times are as follows: Period 1- 9.30-10.45, Period 2- 11.15-12.30 and Period 3- 1.30-2.45.
- Students follow their timetable as they would in school, with the whole curriculum on offer.
- Enrichment sessions are provided, including library, reading, chaplaincy and PE.
- Where Students are not 'live', they will complete work independently as set on ShowMyHomework/ following a Live Lesson.
- Work on additional platforms such as Century, Tassomai, MathsWatch, Educake, Oak Academy etc. will be provided to complement learning.
- Additional enrichment projects will provided through PiXL, FLORIC and the Stronger Together Music Project.



- Intervention or in class support will also be provided for Students should they need it.

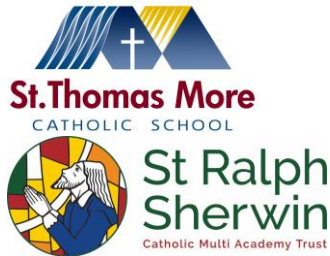
Engagement and feedback

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as Parents and Carers should provide at home?

- We expect all Students (whether in school or working remotely) to access their Live Lessons during Periods 1-3 with their specialist subject teachers. It is important that Students get up as usual and begin the school day at the usual time so that they still have a healthy routine. This also means that Students should have a break between 10:45 – 11:15 and a lunch break between 12.30-1.30.
- Parents must ensure that Students are attending Live Lessons, engaging with the learning and completing the work set.
- Once Students have completed a piece of work in a Live Lesson, it should be uploaded. Students should also complete the other pieces of work set on ShowMyHomework by the deadline and attach it to the task so that the class teacher can assess knowledge and understanding.
- Parents should support their child by ensuring they have a quiet place to work, can access Live Lessons and take the necessary breaks in between lessons and at lunch to maintain focus. It is important to check on your child's well-being and, if you have any concerns, inform your child's Form Tutor or Pastoral Manager.

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

- Registers will be taken by class teachers in every lesson. If a Student has not been attending his/ her Live Lesson, the Class Teacher will notify school. If a Student fails to attend further lessons, the school will telephone home to discuss this with you, along with any possible issues. If a Student continues to be absent from Live Lessons, then a conversation about the child attending school is taken. If a child is missing from their 'live learning', they may be classed as missing from education.
- It is imperative that your son/ daughter uploads/ submits all pieces of work completed so that we have a record of the Student's progress over time.
- We will celebrate Students' successes and will recognise hard work and effort.
- If we have concerns regarding work, again, please expect communication from the school. Nonetheless, if you wish to contact a member of Staff, please feel free to do so using the usual channels: 01298 23167; enquiries@st-thomasmore.derbyshire.sch.uk or their staff email.



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

Feedback can take many forms and will not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. For example: self-assessment, peer assessment within a Live Lesson, whole-class feedback, verbal feedback, polls or quizzes, as well as courses marked automatically on learning platforms. These, amongst many others, are also valid and effective methods. Our approach to providing written feedback on pupil work is as follows:

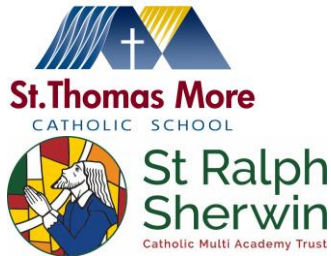
- Feedback will be regular and depend upon the subject's curriculum time.
- Class teachers will provide feedback on ShowMyHomework or 'live' on MSTeams.
- When providing written feedback, a traffic light system might be used along with additional comments (www / ebi).
- In this, the Student may receive a comment praising them or a comment to remind them to act upon something.
- Longer assessed pieces of work might also include a mark or grade.

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. 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:

- Those considered the most vulnerable will attend school and access Live Lessons with Teaching Assistants who can support Students with their Live Lessons.
- Some Students will focus on a reduced curriculum of Live Lessons supplemented with differentiated and personalised work. This is to help Students with cognitive load and enable them to process knowledge in their own time.
- In Live Lessons, the chat function aids the teacher in giving additional support. Additional support can also be explained via ShowMyHomework, rather than in front of the whole class.
- Whole class discussions/ breakout rooms can be set up by the Class Teacher to enable Students to work collaboratively with peers they feel comfortable working with. (This will give them the opportunity to use their microphones to discuss, rather than typing in the chat).
- Question and Answer sessions with Key Workers/ TAs will also provide students support with work/ opportunities to discuss their learning. Key workers will contact parents of the children they are responsible for regularly.



- Students may also be provided with targeted app based learning/ online materials that they can study and revisit at their own pace or pause and listen to a number of times. (E.G: Century/ Oak Academy).
- Some Students may be extracted from usual lessons and receive Literacy intervention, Maths support and/or examination support.
- Finally, in some cases, it may be beneficial for a Student to access speech recognition or optical recognition tools that will enable a Student to verbally express their ideas and the computer will type these or read a text aloud for a Student to hear.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in school, remote education provided may differ from the approach for whole groups.

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

Students will receive work and resources set work on ShowMyHomework. They may be provided with additional work set on learning platforms, and be set lessons to watch and complete on Oak Academy. The materials selected and tasks set for completion will be focused and in line with the school's usual curriculum and, therefore, means that Students must engage with this work to continue to progress at the pace expected. Work set will be meaningful and continue the topics taught in school. Feedback will either be immediate (if on learning platform) or as per the Marking Policy.