



January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: E-ACT remote education provision: Information for Parents and Carers.

Given some of the uncertainties that currently exist, we are aware that pupils could be asked to learn from home for a period of time.

Whilst we will always prioritise having our children in The Parker Academy, we are prepared for every eventuality to ensure our pupils' learning can continue without disruption.

Should your child be asked to learn from home, we will ensure that they can continue to access their curriculum and the close support and guidance of their teachers.

We have plans in place which mean that your child would continue their learning without disruption and be taught a wide range of subjects. Put simply, we will ensure that our pupils access the same high level of educational provision available to them in the academy.

The following guide outlines what parents or carers can expect from The Parker Academy should our children need to learn from home for a period of time. We also have provided a Virtual Learning Handbook, which has further information for you regarding online learning; this can be accessed via our website.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's first day 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.

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

Teachers will upload content onto our remote learning platform: Show My Homework.

Students who are at home will access the lesson content, complete the learning and upload completed work onto SMHW.

In the event of a total lockdown, online learning/lessons will follow students' timetables (for example, they will either have live lessons, pre-recorded content or online tasks to complete and should do so-for each subject-when they would have normally had their timetabled lesson.)

Following the first day 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 that will broadly be in line with the learning students would receive in school wherever possible and appropriate.

However, some subject areas, such as ADT for example, may need to make some adaptations due to the nature of the subjects and resources available at home to all 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 that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Secondary school-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	3-5 hours
Secondary school-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	5+ hours

Accessing remote education

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

Students will access all learning, videos, tasks or links to learning via Show My Homework.

Show My Homework will be used to provide clarity on expectations, links to online learning platforms (such as Hegarty Maths, Seneca and other online sites) and key information-including links to online TEAMs lessons.

Students will submit work electronically on SMHW, or via the school email system.

All “live” virtual lessons will take place on TEAMs. When conducting online lessons, all student videos will be disabled and students will be muted (with the option that they can unmute themselves to ask questions).

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.

It is vital that all students can access their learning, with this in mind, leaders across the school have worked hard to identify and respond to the needs of students to ensure that they have access to resources as required.

Where appropriate, we have and are loaning our students electronic devices to support remote learning.

If your child cannot access their learning then please contact the school, as a matter of urgency or your child's Head of Year so that we can assist and ensure all students have access to a remote education.

Contact details can be found on our website or phone/email:

01327 705816

TheParkerEnquiries@E-ACT.org.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

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

- Timetabled "Live" lessons (accessed via TEAMS)
- Pre-recorded lessons
- Narrated PowerPoints
- Recorded teaching and content from other sources (e.g Oak National Academy lessons etc.)
- Websites and online learning (e.g. SENECA etc.)
- Quizzes to assess knowledge

Engagement and feedback

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

We will monitor engagement and completion of work via the 'Insights' function on Show My Homework.

Teachers will communicate with students via this platform to prompt them as needed or feedback following completion of tasks.

Any concerns and praise for efforts will be communicated with Parents and Carers via email or phone conversations by individual teacher, Heads of Year of other senior staff.

Parents can view all work set online and all communications between staff and students on Show My Homework.

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

Students will ensure that:

- Any academic work set for them will be completed to the best of their ability.
- They or their parent/carer will contact individual members of teaching staff for support with their academic work if and when necessary.
- They or their parent/carer will contact their allocated key member of the Pastoral team if they have any concerns with their physical or emotional wellbeing.
- Any communication with staff is polite, courteous and professional at all times. This includes emails, comments on SMHW and virtual or actual 'chat' during online lessons.
- They attempt the fortnightly challenge, as well as any physical or emotional resources, provided for them to maintain and boost their wellbeing.

Parents/carers will ensure that:

- They encourage their child to complete the academic work set for them to the best of their ability.
- They either contact individual teachers themselves or encourage their child to do so, if any support is required to complete/understand the academic work set.
- They either contact their allocated key member of the Pastoral team, or encourage their child to do so, if they have any concerns with their child's physical or emotional wellbeing, as well as their own.
- Any communication with staff is polite, courteous and professional at all times.
- They encourage their child to attempt the fortnightly challenge, as well as any physical or emotional resources provided for them to maintain and boost their wellbeing.

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.

More details about feedback can be found in our Virtua/ Home Learning Handbook.

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.

Where apt, students who have high-levels of need will be invited into the Academy to join our Vulnerable students.

Regular contact will be made by the Inclusion team to offer help and support remotely.

Support for parents and carers

As a parent/ carer (s) how can I get advice and guidance to support my child's access to the academy's remote learning?

For general questions or concerns, please contact us on:

01327 705816

TheParkerEnquiries@E-ACT.org.uk

If you have any issues with accessing remote learning, please communicate these to your child's Head of Year who should be able to advise and support you or can direct your question to the relevant party.

If it is a specific enquiry regarding a specific subject then please email your child's class teacher.

For IT issues, please email Mr Webb: jon.webb@e-act.org.uk or Mr Taylor: dave.taylor@e-act.org.uk

Associate Deputy Headteacher, Miss Reed: emma.reed@e-act.org.uk is our lead for Teaching and Learning and, as such, leads on Virtual Learning. She will be happy to also assist with enquires regarding remote learning.

Contact us

Thank you for your continued support of The Parker Academy, and please get in touch with any questions or concerns by emailing us at: TheParkerEnquiries@E-ACT.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Simon Cox

Executive Headteacher