

15 March, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to advise you of our expectations for home testing, reporting of results and our plan to enable students to access remote education, should there be a requirement for them to self-isolate now that all year groups have returned to school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have provided to enable us to welcome students safely back to school following the protracted period of school closure.

Update on twice weekly COVID-19 testing at home for students:

Up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer. By the end of this week all students will have been issued with home testing kits.

- Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week on a Thursday and Sunday evening**. Remember to report the result on the day the test is taken.
- Your child should also continue testing twice a week, at home, **throughout the Easter school holidays**.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be given all their test kits on Friday 19 March, all other year groups will be given their extra kits during the last week of term.

Reporting results

It is really important that results of test are reported online straight away, even if the result is negative or void.

Report to the NHS:

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Report to the School:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegcxykeCcFaSpPh31trW_dwrGTAiM6Uz9pDuHwxa2sG13WKQ/viewform

If you report a positive case we will require some additional information, instructions will be provided after selecting 'positive' on the school form.

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing. This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Additional guidance can be found here –

<https://www.loom.com/share/b727bb966e6349358b272d32f7195d96>

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Remote Learning Plan:

We are continuing to implement a Remote Learning Plan in line with guidance from the Department for Education to ensure we can best support learners in the event of three different scenarios:

- **Scenario 1** Self-isolating - Individual students, partial or year group bubble
- **Scenario 2** Shielding students
- **Scenario 3** School site closure

The most common scenario we are likely to contend with is scenario 1, where individual students need to self-isolate or where we are advised to partially close a year group bubble after conducting track and trace in line with Public Health England requirements.

Scenario 1:

Students in Years 7-11 will access work by following the link to the SBL Student Site: <https://students.sbllearning.org.uk/> A screenshot is included below:



Remote Learning 2020

If you are self-isolating or otherwise off school then [click here](#) to access your remote learning for all of your subjects

Years 7-9

- In **Years 7-9**, Curriculum Teams have uploaded high quality lessons aligned with the curriculum the students are studying in school to our Student Site.
- As the maximum number of days a student should be asked to self-isolate is 10 days, curriculum teams have put together a sequence of lessons to cover the number of lessons a student could miss in their subject over a two week cycle.
- The lessons are numbered Lesson 1, Lesson 2 etc. and the students can access these lessons through the new Google Platform we have created *whenever* they self-isolate during the term, completing lessons across their subjects when they are timetabled. For example, they would complete Lesson 1 for English on the first day they are timetabled for English during self-isolation and Lesson 2 the next time they are timetabled for English and so on.

Years 10 and 11

- In **Years 10 and 11** – Class teachers will upload lessons to our Student Site whenever they are self-isolating in the term.
- Work will be available 24 hours after the KS4 students have been advised to self-isolate.
- For the first 24 hours, students should access high quality lessons available from Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/> or other online resources their teachers have advised them to use for their subject. In addition we also have a membership for all students to utilise the benefits of GCSE Pod: <https://www.gcsepod.com/>

Post-16

- Year 12 and 13 will continue to access remote learning if they are self-isolating through their individual subject Google Classrooms, as this has proven to be a successful strategy for post-16 students to access remote learning throughout different periods of school closure.
- If there is a closure of an entire post-16 class, the group will also have live MS Teams lessons as timetabled by the school leaders across WMAT.

Any individual students in Years 7-13 who exceed this period of self-isolation will move to the **Shielding Plan**

Scenario 2:

- Students who are shielding in Years 7-11 will have lessons, projects and coursework tasks (as appropriate) uploaded to Insight by their individual teachers as this will enable the teacher to ensure they can provide personalised instruction for students shielding for an extended period of time
- If individual students are shielding or self-isolating for an extended period of time, we will provide some additional recorded lessons and some 'live' lessons through MS Teams
- Post-16 - Students will be sent online learning by their subject teacher in the subject Google Classroom and will have live MS Teams tutorials as timetabled by WMAT school leaders
- Students in Years 7-13 will return completed work to their teachers by email or through other online platforms agreed with individual staff such as Google Classroom in order to receive feedback

Scenario 3:

In the event of a site closure, we will reinstate our Remote Learning plan from lockdown. Students will have an opportunity to engage in a combination of live, narrated and independent lessons each equating to approximately 1/3 of their curriculum time across all subjects. We are adopting this model as we have reflected on evidence collated by the Education Endowment Foundation that examines the existing research for approaches and best practice to support the learning of students whilst working remotely.

- Live lessons will be conducted using the Microsoft Teams platform. Help on using teams is available at: <https://students.sbllearning.org.uk/teams>
- We will reinstate the live lesson timetable published during lockdown for your child. This needs to be used in conjunction with your child's regular timetable.

- Students will continue to access the presentation slides for all lessons by following the link to our Remote Learning Google Platform located on the SBL Student Site: <https://students.sbllearning.org.uk/>
- Class teachers will continue to upload lessons for all other periods that haven't been timetabled as live to our SBL Student Site
- Students will continue to complete and submit a Learning Check for each subject during each two week cycle, enabling them to receive feedback from their teacher for the work they have completed remotely in order to support them to make progress across their subjects

Finally, we have previously conducted an audit to confirm all students can access online learning at home, however, if there is any reason your child is unable to do so, please contact our Parent/Carer IT Helpdesk. Similarly, if you experience any difficulties accessing your son/daughter's remote learning, please use the link below to give us specific details of the issue. You should also use the link to let us know if you are using mobile devices to access remote learning and you think you are likely to run out of data:

Parent/carers IT helpdesk: <https://students.sbllearning.org.uk/helpdesk>

If you are unable to do this, please call the school directly on 0117 456 5900. We will do whatever we can to promptly resolve any issues that arise.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any aspect of remote learning in more detail.

Yours faithfully

Ms K Deady
Vice Principal