

Remote Education Provision at Reading School

In the event of your son needing to stay off-site due to COVID restrictions or self-isolation, please find the information below to clarify what he and you can expect from the start of any period of remote education.

The school day

- Your son will follow the same Period 1-8 timetable as in school and as such should be ready and prepared to 'attend;'
- We are able to track attendance/work completion and a consistent lack of engagement will result in phone calls home from senior staff;
- Your son will continue to have tutor time in order to check in with a pastoral member of staff and maintain a sense of community;
- Wherever operationally possible, your son's Reading Way afternoon sessions (RW3 and RW4) will continue remotely, although the specific nature of the activity may be subject to change. He should check the relevant Team for clarity;

Delivery of the curriculum

- All work will be accessible online on Microsoft Teams (which he can access using his school login);
- If you have concerns over your son's ability to reliably access Microsoft Teams (for example due to shortage of devices in your household or a poor internet connection), then please contact tevens@reading-school.co.uk in strictest confidence ASAP to explore what support we can offer;
- As far as possible, you should encourage your son to stay prepared for any future period of remote education by ensuring he has access to all textbooks, exercise books & resources at home;
- If the whole of your son's class is self-isolating, your son should expect a mix of 'live' lessons, recorded lessons (internal and external) and independent practice, which his teacher will determine according to the content being taught. No single 'type' of lesson is better than another, and his teacher is the expert in making appropriate choices regarding delivery style;
- Where your son needs to self-isolate but the majority of his peer group remains in school, the teacher will ensure that work is available on Teams and where appropriate will 'dial in' your son to join their lesson, although he should be sensitive to the difficulties this 'hybrid' approach poses for teaching staff;
- Your son will follow the same curriculum as if he were on the school site, although minor changes to sequence and pace may occur. The high quality of our remote education ensures that all courses will be completed on time and no student will be disadvantaged;
- Your son's teachers have been trained on how to effectively blend in-class and remote learning. They will continue to provide feedback to your son, however this could take a

variety of forms. Whole-class feedback, questioning or automatically marked online tests/quizzes are valid and effective methods that he can expect to receive at appropriate points in the curriculum, as determined by his teacher;

- Beyond Periods 1-8 and RW3 and RW4, your son should expect to complete homework independently after-school, just as if he were in the classroom. The length of this homework will increase for older year groups. Homework is set via the Assignments area within Teams. Every piece of homework will have a published deadline and any additional learning resources required to complete work will be attached to the assignment, or available elsewhere via Team. It is essential for the effective delivery of the curriculum that this homework is completed on time and following the instructions provided;

What to do if your son needs help

- If your son has any IT problems during remote learning they should email onlinelearning@reading-school.co.uk
- If your son has any other problems accessing the curriculum, he should email his teacher as a first port of call.
- If you have any concerns about your son, either academically or pastorally, please contact his tutor as a first port of call.
- Some pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may require additional support to access remote education effectively. Our Student Support team will contact these students directly (and their parents if necessary) to monitor needs and suggest strategies – if your child has a Special Educational Need or Disability and you have concerns about their ability to engage with remote learning, please contact studentsupport@reading-school.co.uk

Helping your son adjust to remote learning

- During any time of remote learning, we aim to reduce students' feelings of isolation and disconnection from school. As a parent, it is advisable to have a copy of your son's timetable to refer to, briefly check the completion/quality of his work and discuss his day's learning with him in order to help him adapt to remote learning.
- Aim to minimise distractions. Mobile phones and social media are not allowed in the classroom so should be discouraged during the school day at home. Where you have any concerns, you should contact his form tutor via email;
- Please respect the school timetable, arranging meals / family activities outside of periods 1-8 and scheduled RW sessions, as missing any session will place your son at a disadvantage.
- Please reinforce with your son our expectations for his behaviour online. He must recognise that Teams is a learning platform and not social media and the nature of his interactions must reflect this. Any disruption to lessons or inappropriate comments will result in phone calls home from senior staff and appropriate sanctions once back on the school site.