Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts to remain at home.

For details of what to expect where individual students are self-isolating, please see the final section of this page.

The remote curriculum: What is taught to students at home

A student's first day or two 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 in the first day or two of students being sent home?

Teachers will email their classes with an online schedule for the day, but in the first day this may include an initial whole class meeting to explain how online learning will work moving forward.

Students will need to read their emails before 10am to ensure they are prepared for their first session with the Google Meet code and time. Where students are working on written modules, this will continue over Google Meet sessions, but where students are working on practical modules, they may be completing alternative work during online lessons as they will not have access to practical equipment and resources.

For students timetabled to complete functional skills, the same process will apply: students will be emailed their Google Meet instructions from their functional skills teachers and must attend at their scheduled time.

Teachers will be starting the day with form time every day between 10 and 10.10am and we ask that all students attend to receive any updates for the day.

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Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in college?
We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in college wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects. For example, Practical Musicianship and SMSC are incorporated into RSL lessons wherever possible rather than their own lessons, and Black Deer and Careers Advice are offered through standalone workshops. Details of these workshops will be emailed out to the students in advance and, if they take the place of lessons that students are already scheduled to be in, students can discuss missing lessons to be able to attend these one-off workshops and agree to catch up on their work at a later date.

In addition, the Careers team are continuing 1:1 careers chats and scheduling external careers advice and guidance online, as well as offering virtual work experience opportunities. Students receiving additional support, such as counselling and pastoral sessions via the additional EHCP day can expect to continue these sessions online.

1:1 pastoral sessions will be delivered over the phone and may be used as a wellbeing call to support with each students' emotional needs.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the college to take my child each day?
We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take students broadly the following number of hours each day:

Online RSL/Achieve lessons	2 hours
Independent study (continuing with RSL/Achieve/Maths/English/Personal Projects)	3 hours
Maths and English (on scheduled days)	2 hours per subject

Accessing remote education

How will my child access any online remote education you are providing?
Students access online learning via Google, using Google Classroom to access work, Google Meets to access lessons and workshops, and Google Hangouts to socialise. In addition, morning and afternoon workshops are held via Zoom and students will be regularly emailed by their teachers and the college to their SupaJam Gmail accounts. Further announcements will be made via the SupaJam website and SupaJam Facebook page.

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 students may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those students to access remote education:
Students and parents will be offered the opportunity to collect a Chromebook from SupaJam for the student to use during the period of lockdown.

For any students without access to the internet, dongles will be provided and sent directly to the student's home, allowing them to connect to the internet.

How will my child be taught remotely?
We use a combination of the following approaches to teach students remotely:
live teaching (online lessons) ong-term project work and/or internet research activities.

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 students to engage with all of their live online learning sessions and to respond to teacher emails if necessary. Where a student is unwell, they will need to let their teacher know in advance of their lesson that they will not be attending, to allow the teacher to reschedule this time with another student.

When not engaging in online sessions, students should continue with their RSL/Achieve/ Maths and English work independently during their timetabled days via Google Classroom. We expect parents and carers to support us in achieving high engagement with your children, ensuring they attend their live lessons on time and that they are completing work independently outside of lessons on their timetabled days.

How will you check whether my child is engaging with their work and how will I be informed if there are concerns?
We will check student engagement with individual students every day that they are timetabled (replicating first day calling when students are learning in the bases). This means that if students do not show up for a lesson, we will be calling them and possibly their parents or carers to find out why they have not attended their scheduled lesson. In addition, teachers will check Google Classroom to ensure that students are continuing their work independently away from online lessons.

Should a student become a concern, after initially discussing this with the student to see if we can support with any problems or issues, we will contact the parents and carers to discuss our concerns. We may also refer the student to our pastoral team to offer additional support and wellbeing calls.

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. Our approach to feeding back on student work is as follows:

Students will continue to receive feedback on their written work via Google Classroom, as well as verbal feedback when attending live lessons. This will continue with the same regularity as learning within the college.

Additional support for students 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 students, for example some students 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 students in the following ways:

Alternative timetables, with scheduled lessons that you may be able to accompany – please let us know if you have better times and days where you are able to support your child from home.

A reduced expectation of independent working.
The opportunity to come into the base and receive support from LSPs and other staff to be able to access online lessons. If your child is not already coming into the base on scheduled days and you would like to discuss this, please contact the following staff who will be able to arrange this with you:
Sammi Hastie (Swanley) – sammi.hastie@supajam-education.org
Stef Hallett (Canterbury) – steff.hallett@supajam-education.org
Sarah Lucas (Operations Manager for both bases) – sarah.lucas@supajam-education.org

Should you have any other requirements or questions, please contact the SEN Manager:
Hannah.goslett@supajam-education.org

Remote education for self-isolating students
Where individual students need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in college, how remote education is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching students both at home and in college.

If my child is not in college because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?
Students will either be offered access to in-class live teaching via a Google Meet session, or an individual session via Google Meet with an LSP. This may be a reduced timetable to in-college learning (depending on staff resources and success of accessing in-class live teaching) and independent work will also be set alongside this. Students are encouraged to email their teachers throughout the day with any questions and to ensure the teachers are aware that they are still working.