

Cowley International College

A Guide for the Continuity of Education during Remote Learning

January 14th 2021

Introduction

We appreciate the challenges that Remote Learning presents for parents, carers and students. It is clear that the students that completed home learning in the first lockdown in March returned to College in September much better prepared. Therefore, we have reflected on the successes and challenges of the March lockdown in order to put together an enhanced and robust plan for this period of Remote Learning – drawing on the enhanced skills of our staff, the knowledge of our students and the advances in technology we have embraced to make Remote Learning more accessible, bespoke and engaging.

We welcome the support that parents and carers can provide by supporting good routines and monitoring their child's progress with Remote Learning tasks set and this guide has been put together to support families with such engagement.

Resources and Platforms

Our key access point for Remote Learning is Microsoft Teams and the Home Study section of the College web site. The link to the Cowley Home Study area is below.

[HOME STUDY FOR STUDENTS | \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](https://cowley.st-helens.sch.uk)

Some subjects pay for access to other platforms such as MyMaths, GCSE Pod (general) and Educake (Science), Mangahigh (Maths), GoChinese (Mandarin) – students will be aware of these platforms. If there are any issues, students should contact the departmental emails or year team emails for support. The link is below.

[Contacting departments and year teams | \(cowley.st-helens.sch.uk\)](https://cowley.st-helens.sch.uk)

Government Expectations

Government Guidelines state: (issued January 5th 2021)

When teaching pupils remotely, we expect schools to:

- set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects
- set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, and as a minimum:
- secondary: 4 hours a day, with more for pupils working towards formal qualifications this year

- provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos
- have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern
- gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks, and provide feedback, at least weekly, using digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate
- enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding.

Students in Year 7, 8, 9

Students will continue to follow their daily timetable for each timetabled period – with learning time in line with their regular timetable

Each day, your child's subject teacher will post guidance for activities in their class team on Microsoft Teams which will be in line with the learning programme for this half term. This aligns with the overall learning menu and resources on the Cowley Home Learning website. The work set in your child's Microsoft Teams group is tailored to the individual teaching group.

We expect that students would follow their timetable for their timetabled lessons each day and work within their timetabled hour. If sharing a computer with a sibling, then priorities and turn-taking needs to be organised to see when activities can be completed without computer access or submitted at a later point, following submission of work deadlines set by the subject teacher.

Students in Year 10 – 13

Students in year 10 -13 will receive 'live' lessons on Microsoft Teams.

Year 10 students will receive a proportion of their lessons 'live' and using Microsoft Teams work submission as outlined above for year 7-9. This will be managed by departments and subject teachers.

All lessons for Year 11-13 will be 'live' on Microsoft Teams

Students will 'join' live lessons via meetings scheduled by their teacher at their timetabled lesson time. Students will need to be registered at each session by the class teacher – other than when requested, cameras and microphones should be off.

Guidelines:

- Conduct yourself as if in a lesson in a classroom
- Set up a quiet space, away from distractions
- Use the technology safely and responsibly
- Be ready to learn and make progress
- Have equipment ready
- The teacher will lead the lesson – be prepared to contribute if asked
- Use the 'raise your hand' or chat facility to ask questions

- Hang up promptly when the lesson closes

In summary

- Maintaining a learning routine as closely as possible to normal is important to well-being – getting up, washed, dressed as if for a normal college day.
- Lessons and activities will continue existing Learning Programmes and support learning to resume when returning to the classroom. Teachers will include differentiated and extension material when appropriate
- Help is available via Departmental emails and subject/team tutors will be making regular telephone contact to support students
- If there is a reason that your child is unwell or unable to partake in online learning, please contact College as soon as possible
- Achievement points and good news for work is always celebrated at Cowley so we will be very happy to share good work – just like in lessons!