



HEATHSIDE SCHOOL  
HAMPSTEAD

## REMOTE EDUCATION PROVISION – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS October 2021

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

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

### THE REMOTE CURRICULUM – WHAT IS TAUGHT TO CHILDREN AT HOME?

Heathside School's remote learning platform Heathside@Home has run successfully in both periods of lockdown starting from the first day of school closure.

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

Heathside School's remote education is available from the first day children are sent home. All pupils have a login to a Google Classroom account and parents have been asked to test they can log in correctly prior to lockdown.

#### **Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?**

We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in school wherever possible and appropriate. However, we have needed to make some adaptations in some subjects, particularly more practical subjects, for example sport and music.

#### **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:

EYFS	3 - 5 hours - enough activities are provided to keep children busy for the whole day.
Years 1 and 2	5 hours (approx. 0900 - 1530 with 45-60 mins for lunch)
Years 3 and 4	5.5 hours (approx. 0900 - 1600 with 45-60 mins for lunch)
Year 5 and Above	6.5 hours (approx. 0900 - 1600 with 30-60 mins for lunch)

## **ACCESSING REMOTE EDUCATION**

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

At Heathside we use Google for education to provide a continuous online learning experience for our pupils. Through Google Classroom, pupils can gain access to interactive worksheets and videos alongside live lessons with their teachers.

### **If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?**

Although the vast majority of our pupils have full internet access in order to access online resources, a small number of families may have difficulty providing suitable online access at home. To support those pupils to access remote education, the school keeps a small stock of Chromebooks which may be loaned to families who are not able to access a suitable device. We also provide a dedicated help desk service to families having difficulty accessing the online provision.

In addition to this, the school has provided resource packs to pupils which contain a range of suitable materials to support online learning. These packs were delivered to pupils' homes either by post or by a member of staff who ensured contactless delivery.

### **How will my child be taught remotely?**

Heathside's approach to online learning aims to achieve an as close to normal daily routine for our pupils although this is adapted to the age and needs of each year group.

#### **In the Lower School (EYFS – Y4):**

We deliver remote lessons through a combination of live lessons, pre-recorded lessons with live teacher support, and independent work - all of which are posted in each year group's Google Classroom; timetables for all year groups indicate the method of lesson delivery and the timings for the day. The feedback from parents and students on remote learning during the first lockdown was very positive and we have used that experience to further refine our offer to provide the best possible teaching and learning in these challenging circumstances.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, class teachers prepare a wide range of activities for the children to take part. The activities provided are enough to keep the children busy throughout the day however we encourage families to gauge their child's engagement level and decide how many activities they are going to take part in. On average, Reception-age children engage in our remote learning for around 3 hours per day.

In Year 1 - 4 sessions on each year group's timetable are categorised as *Must*, *Should*, and *Could*. Lessons are categorised in this way to help parents make informed decisions about how much online provision their child should take part in; we encourage families to be child led in this regard. Moreover, as our youngest pupils grow in confidence with online learning, we gradually increase the quantity of work we provide.

The level of adult input required for our younger pupils will clearly be quite significant, but we expect that older children can manage a good proportion independently. We encourage parents to contact their class teacher if remote learning is not working for their child for whatever reason. Heathside@Home should be a fun, innovative and exciting new way of working that we hope will keep children grounded and focused on learning.

#### **In the Upper School (Y5 – Y9):**

We will deliver remote lessons through a combination of online meeting and independent work which will be posted in Google Classrooms. The feedback from parents and students on remote learning in the first

lockdown was very positive and we have used that experience to further refine our offer to provide the best possible teaching and learning in these challenging circumstances.

All lessons for students in Years 7-9 will take place through Google Meets. Years 5 and 6 will be a combination of live lessons and independent work. Online learning will follow the same timetable as when pupils are learning on site.

We expect that older children and, in particular, students in Years 7-9 are able to manage a good proportion of remote learning independently. We encourage parents to contact their class teacher if remote learning is not working for their child for whatever reason. Heathside@Home should be a fun, innovative and exciting new way of working that we hope will keep children grounded and focused on learning.

## **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?**

Pupils are expected to attend all lessons unless they are absent from school. Parents should report any absence in the usual way. Pupils are expected to be punctual and courteous, dressed appropriately and ready to learn at the start of each lesson. Remote learning etiquette is expected by teachers and parents are asked to discuss etiquette with their children so that they understand how they can help ensure that everyone has the best online learning experience possible.

Children should keep their microphones muted unless they are instructed otherwise. Google Meet has a new 'raise hand' function which we ask the children to use if they have a question or comment to make. Children should not be calling out during a lesson, or speaking over others.

Ideally cameras should be kept on, unless instructed by the teacher. This helps us keep an eye on the children's engagement. There may be times when a child needs to turn their camera off to stabilise their internet connection, this must be discussed with the teacher for every instance.

Children should only use the chat function when instructed by the teacher, and we would like to remind the children to keep their comments sensible and relevant.

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

Open and transparent communication with parents is part of Heathside's normal working practice and this continues during lockdown. Teachers email or telephone parents if they have concerns about a child's level of engagement and parents are welcome to contact their teachers directly. In addition, weekly staff meetings flag up any concerns in a more formal environment.

### **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 pupil work is as follows:

- Verbal Praise and feedback during live lessons.
- Heath points for Upper School or marbles for Lower School.
- Regular, teacher marked work which has been submitted to the teacher via Google Classroom.
- Automatically marked tasks through platforms such as MyMaths or Atom learning.
- 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. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers to support those pupils in the following ways:

During periods of remote education, the SENDCO and class teachers, continuously review the needs of SEND children to ensure that our online provision allows pupils to make progress.

For pupils working remotely, teachers will provide appropriately differentiated work and support and additional 1:1 or small group interventions will be arranged through Google Meet. In the Upper School, We have adapted the published contingency timetable to provide ongoing support for pupils who benefit from additional interventions and/or booster sessions. You will see these in your child's individual timetable.

Where these are delivered on a 1-1 basis; these will be recorded for safeguarding reasons.

If, in the professional opinion of their teacher, pupils are unable to access online learning then the school may invite the pupil to the onsite Key Worker and Vulnerable Children Hub where staff can further support them to access the online curriculum.

## **REMOTE EDUCATION FOR SELF ISOLATING CHILDREN**

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

### **If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?**

If the school is open and your child has been identified as needing to self – isolate they should still log on to google classroom at the start of the day. Their teachers will post a range of online and independent learning tasks for them along with live access to lessons through a terminal set up at the front of the classroom. This applies to children of any age group.