

# Remote education provision: information for parents



**Westfield Academy is committed to providing an outstanding remote learning provision that ensures students continue to access a high-quality education.**

## **Curriculum**

In the majority of subjects, students will continue to cover the planned curriculum albeit through remote learning. Our Faculties sequence their curriculum to build on prior learning experiences and to develop the key skills and knowledge in a way that best supports progress. However, it is not possible to fully replicate the experience of classroom learning and so it will be necessary for teachers to adapt some resources, activities and assessments.

Subjects that regularly involve practical activities, such as Art, Design & Technology, Music and Science will necessarily have to adapt activities to allow students to participate in learning without access to specialist equipment. These Faculties have developed resources and adapted their teaching such that students can still experience the richness of these subjects, as well as continuing to develop skills and knowledge.

For a few subjects, more significant changes to the face-to-face curriculum are required, for example Key Stage 3 PE and Drama. Our PE department will continue to enthuse and encourage students to remain healthy and active, but necessarily have to adapt the curriculum to the home learning environment.

## **Remote teaching and study time each day**

Students will follow their school timetable, with a blended approach of both 'live' lessons through Zoom, as well as recorded 'loom' lessons and other activities.

We have decided that a 50% 'live lesson' timetable is most appropriate at present for students and staff. 'Live' lessons will be 40 minutes in length. Other recorded lessons will fit into the students' timetables. This blended approach will allow for independent student work which will introduce and develop new learning, as well as either prepare students for their next lesson, or assess progress and learning from previous lessons.

Students will also be able to access optional extension tasks for each subject. These are available for those students who have been able to complete the lesson tasks well within the allotted time and/or because they want the opportunity to extend their learning and complete further study or research in that subject area. All resources for each lesson, as well as curriculum overviews, are available on Go4Schools and Edmodo.

Students in Year 12 & 13 will be set tasks that extend beyond their timetabled lessons and so a minimum of 5 hours of learning is expected each day.

## **Accessing remote education**

As stated above, we use a variety of platforms. For live lessons, Zoom is used, and for recorded lessons, Loom is used. All lesson links will be published on the whole school

Go4School and Edmodo platforms in advance of the lessons so that students and parents can plan their day.

We recognise that some students may not have suitable online access at home. If this is the case, contact should be made with the Head of Year in the first instance and we will aim to resolve the issue. The Government has provided a number of laptops which are available for eligible families, and we have contacted homes to collect these from School.

Form tutors are making weekly 'check-in' phone calls and will be able to support and advise regarding other issues. Where online access is a difficulty, we will aim to support through the above, as well as short-term printing of tasks and work.

## Engagement and feedback

It is vital that students continue to engage with their learning during this difficult time. We hold with our expectations of full attendance and exemplary behaviour to allow for student learning to continue to make progress.

Our Westfield way approach has been adapted to support this:

### WORKING TOGETHER: ZOOM LESSONS – WESTFIELD EXPECTATIONS

**You must:**

- ❖ Check go4schools 24 hours in advance of your lesson to find your meeting id code
- ❖ Have a quiet place for your lesson, with no distractions
- ❖ Dress appropriately
- ❖ No phones, unless for Kahoot etc
- ❖ Be punctual to all lessons.
- ❖ Be respectful in all lessons – code of conduct still applies
- ❖ Participate appropriately, and when your teacher asks you to.
- ❖ Ask questions, using the chat button, if you need to
- ❖ Put your maximum effort into your work

**We will:**

- ❖ Provide all the id details 24 hours in advance
- ❖ Deliver lessons that teach the curriculum, so that you will know more and remember more
- ❖ Break lessons down with overviews, small chunks of activities and practice, and assessments and feedback
- ❖ Mix 'live' lessons with other styles through Loom, Edmodo and Seneca
- ❖ Assess your understanding both during the lesson with quizzes and direct questioning, as well as between lessons with activities that practice and extend your learning.
- ❖ Build your understanding and learning, from simple to complex, and general to specific.
- ❖ Work with you at this difficult time – if you're not sure, ASK!



We ask that parents regularly check Go4Schools and Edmodo, and support their child in following their timetable each day, attending live lessons, and completing all set work. As above, live lessons must be in a safe environment, in a quiet place with no distractions.

To aid this, we strongly advise a routine to the day, and continue to encourage such a routine that mirrors what would be the case if we had a normal, full school-day, ie getting up with plenty of time, breakfast, breaks between lessons and refreshments that are healthy to support this working during the day.

## **Student engagement and feedback**

As with a normal day, teachers, Form tutors, Heads of Year and the Senior team will be monitoring progress, behaviour and attendance. If there are concerns in this regard, contact will be made with home. This also applies to parents own concerns, and we ask that contact be made with their form tutor and/or Head of Year.

- Attendance at live sessions is monitored by staff and non-attendance recorded. Repeated non-attendance at live sessions will be followed up with students and parents/carers by Heads of Year.
- Deadlines and details of how and when work is to be submitted will be included in the lesson information onGo4Schools and Edmodo. Frequency of submission will vary by subject depending on weekly curriculum time; this reflects normal school practice.
- If work is not submitted, subject teachers will remind the student via a notification in the subject Edmodo group. If the work is not submitted following this prompt, subject teachers will e-mail the parents/carers and Heads of Year will be notified. Repeated late or non-submission of work will be followed up with students and parents/carers by Heads of Year.
- Students will receive feedback in a variety of ways, as is normal school practice. These may include:
  - automated feedback from a Zoom Quiz, or similar;
  - grades or marks for teacher assessed pieces via Edmodo
  - personalised or whole class written feedback via Edmodo
  - verbal feedback during a live lesson
- The school's reward system will continue, with students being awarded positives where appropriate.

## **Additional support for pupils with particular needs**

We recognise that some students, for example some pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may find it more challenging to adapt to, and access, the remote learning provision. We will work with parents and carers to support these students in the following ways:

- All students with EHCPs have the option to attend school and complete their remote learning in our SEN department, under the supervision of staff.
- All students with an EHCP have regular contact with their LSA via email and/or telephone. Parents/carers of a child or young person with an EHCP will also receive regular communication from the SEN department via the SENCO.
- Other students on the SEND register in KS3,4 and 5, who are identified by staff or parents as finding the current circumstances a particular challenge, will be contacted by members of the SEN department, who will be key points of contact for ongoing advice and support during the current restrictions.

- LSAs are in school on a rota basis to work with students who are on site.
- Mentoring via our Inclusion team is being offered for students who usually access this support in school.
- We continue to hold online meetings with parents and external professionals, subject to availability.

### **Remote education for self-isolating pupils**

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate they should access the remote learning as outlined above. If unwell, work will be available when the students is better. We would ask parents to inform the school if this is the case.

Thank you for your continued support for your child's learning. Much of this is new to us at present, but we are committed to supporting the full development of all our students.