

Blended Learning Offer

On any occasion that students at Erdington Academy are required to learn from home, we have put in place a variety of strategies to ensure that all students can access a high quality, full curriculum. This strategy is dependent on the student being well enough to complete their learning activities; we recognise that individual home circumstances vary.

For clarity, this document has been separated into two sections:

- 1) 'Information for parents/carers of students who are self-isolating but the majority of their class are still in school'
- 2) 'Information for parents/carers of students who are self-isolating because their whole class or year group bubble has been told to isolate'.

Information for parents/carers of students who are self-isolating who are self-isolating but the majority of their class are still in school

1. How will work be set during your child's absence from school?

Your child's teacher will be informed that your child is self-isolating at the end of the day that their absence was reported. If your child was supposed to have a lesson that day, the teacher will contact them via Show My Homework to provide them with the activities from the lesson.

2. How can my child ask the teacher questions if they need support with the work?

Your child can send a message to their teacher via Show My Homework. To do this they must be logged into their own Show My Homework account and not a parent account. Only a personal student account will enable your child to ask the teacher questions via the SMH message function.

3. Can my child submit their work to the teacher?

Yes they can, and they should be submitting work for feedback while they are absent. When a student sends a message to their teacher there is an option to attach a file to the message. Students should use this function to send their work. If they have handwritten their work, they can take a photo of it on their mobile phone and then attach the photo so that their teacher can provide feedback on their work.

4. What type of work will be set?

Students will be set the work that other students have covered in class. Normally this will be in the form of the lesson Powerpoint with some instructions / voiceover to explain the learning activities.

5. What should I do if I want more work for my child?

Your child can request more work by messaging their teacher through Show My Homework. We would also recommend that your child makes use of the online lessons to support the topics that they are studying. Useful websites include:

- <http://www.erdingtonacademy.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/curriculum> (please see links on each subject page)
- <https://www.thenational.academy/>

6. What should my child do when they return to the academy?

We would encourage your child to be proactive and to do the following:

- Show their teachers work completed during remote learning period (if they haven't submitted it via Show My Homework).
- Ask for any resources they have missed during this time.
- Asks their teacher for advice if they are experiencing any difficulties with the content of lessons on their return to school.

7. What if my child's teacher is self-isolating?

Teachers who are self-isolating will continue to set work via Show My Homework if they are well enough to do so. This work will normally be in the form of a narrated PowerPoint that will be used in school with their class who would be being supervised by another teacher. These narrated PowerPoints will also be available to any student within the class who is self-isolating.

Information for parents/carers of students who are self-isolating because their whole class or year group bubble has been told to isolate by the Academy

In the event of a class or year group bubble being asked to self-isolate for 14 days the following principles to any remote learning offer:

- Safeguarding procedures from lockdown will be immediately re-instated to ensure monitoring of student well-being.
- Students with SEND will receive support to ensure they can access the remote learning.
- Students will continue to access the full breadth of their curriculum.
- Students will have access to new learning in order to continue to progress through the curriculum. This new learning will have regular, clear instruction.
- Students will receive feedback in line with the Academy's feedback or marking policy.
- Students' 'log-ons' will be tracked to monitor student engagement with electronic content.
- Students without online access will receive appropriate printed resources such as text books
- Students will have frequent contact with teachers through electronic means, and will be able to access learning support school when required.

1. What work will my child be set if their whole class bubble or year group bubble is sent home?

In the event of a whole year group or class being sent home and told to isolate for two weeks, students will be expected to complete their normal timetabled lessons at home.

2. How will the work be set?

Work will be set via Show My Homework or Microsoft Teams via Office365. An overview of which lessons will be set on teams and which will be set via Show My Homework will be sent to parents at the beginning of any group isolation period.

3. What type of work will be set?

The research on home learning suggests that variety is important when setting work. As a result, teachers at Erdington Academy have been asked to follow this approach over three or four lessons when setting work for home learning:

- New Learning introduced using a narrated PowerPoint or Microsoft Teams (usually a 20-minute teacher input followed by students completing the application of their learning. Students will be able to ask questions throughout their lesson)
- A test/quiz to assess student understanding of the previous learning. This would be completed online so that the teacher can see the results.
- An activity that deepens their learning which students will be asked to submit.
- Feedback to allow students to improve their work and extend their learning.

While teachers have the flexibility to move away from this cycle of learning where it will benefit students, you should expect your child to receive at least one narrated PowerPoint or teams input every three lessons and they should have regular opportunities to submit work for feedback.

4. What should my child do if they need to ask a question?

Your child can send a message to their teacher via Show My Homework. To do this they must be logged into their own Show My Homework account and not a parent account. Only a personal student account will enable your child to ask the teacher questions via the SMH message function.

5. What should I do if I want more work for my child?

Your child can request more work by messaging their teacher through Show My Homework. We would also recommend that your child makes use of the online lessons to support the topics that they are studying. Useful websites include:

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We appreciate that some students will find remote learning a challenge. Whilst we encourage students to do all they can, we do not want students to become overly anxious about falling behind or not managing all of the work set. Equally, there may be issues with access to technology at home that might mean remote learning is a challenge. Please let us know if remote learning is becoming a challenge for your child by informing your child's Head of Year.