



This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to students and parents/carers about what to expect from remote learning where national or local restrictions require Mark Rutherford School students to remain at home.

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

The remote learning curriculum: what is taught to students at home?

A student's first day or two of being taught remotely might look different from our standard approach, although we will take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching and learning.

What should students expect during the first day or two of remote learning?

We are prepared to move quickly to remote learning provision, and school staff are able to respond to local or national requirements to work in different ways.

In the first instance, students should check messages on **epraise** and **itslearning** as teachers will be setting independent work for their classes. Students should also check their timetables so that they know when their live Zoom lessons will take place. We will always be ready to move to our Zoom timetable, however experience has shown that during the first day or two of remote learning, both staff and students may encounter some teething problems. This could be related to technology or to timings! We will respond quickly to solve any issues and ask for patience so that our remote learning systems can embed.

A number of subjects will always have generic tasks as additional work available to students, found in the subject area for the whole year group on **itslearning**, so students should never be short of a task to complete.

Following the first few days of remote learning, will students 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. This includes the whole range of subjects covered on your child's timetable. However, we may need to make some adaptations in some subjects; for example subjects may change the teaching sequence as some topics lend themselves more naturally to being delivered remotely while another unit might be taught and enjoyed better by students when we return to the classroom. Some practical subjects will adjust the delivery of their curriculum; for example science may use a video clip of an experiment or Music may ask students to analyse the effect of a particular piece of recorded music rather than playing an instrument. We will ensure that the whole curriculum is covered as far as possible, with plans in place for adapting the curriculum on return to the classroom.

How long can I expect work set by the school to take?

In line with Government guidance, we expect that students should spend five hours per day on remote learning; this includes lessons delivered live via Zoom and any independent work set. This is the same for students in Years 7-11. Post-16 students will have the same amount of learning time as on their school timetable – again a mix of

live Zoom lessons and independent work. Students in Years 11 and 13 should also spend additional time revising, as they would if we were in school.

We appreciate that individual students will work at a different pace depending on their learning needs. For students who complete work quickly, there will be extension tasks made available and students who require additional support or extra time, will have their needs accounted for.

How will my students access the online remote learning you are providing?

The two main platforms that students need to access during remote learning are **epraise** (our rewards and independent learning platform) and **itslearning** (a platform for resources, the submission of assignments and through which students access their live Zoom lessons).

Zoom is a platform that allows resources to be shared live, teachers to provide explanations of new material and an opportunity for students to ask and respond to questions as they would in the classroom.

In addition to **epraise**, **itslearning** and Zoom, students may be directed by their teachers to access a number of other commercially available platforms such as Seneca, GCSE Pod, MyMaths, MathsWatch, Educake or others.

It has been widely publicised that providers such as Oak National Academy and the BBC have made content available for students in secondary schools, and some lessons may use this during live Zoom lessons, or direct students to access such providers during lessons where independent work has been set.

Student password reset requests can be made using the following email addresses:

itslearning: ItsLearningPwdRst@mrus.co.uk
epraise: ePraisePwdRst@mrus.co.uk
GCSE Pod: GCSEPodPwdRst@mrus.co.uk
Educake: EducakePwdRst@mrus.co.uk

If students do not have digital access or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote learning?

We recognise that some students may not have suitable online access at home; we continually work to improve access for students and will support students to get online.

If you require support for your child to be able to access remote learning, please email our school closures address: schoolclosures@mrus.co.uk and mark your email for the attention of Ms Luck.

Ms Luck has oversight of the digital/online support needs of our students and she works to put access in place for students during a period of full or partial school closure.

If your child requires any materials printed, please use the school closures email address, or contact our main reception which is staffed every day between 8am-4pm. Printed materials can be posted to students. The school telephone number is 01234 290200.

How will students be taught remotely?

As stated previously, we expect a student to be engaged in remote learning for five hours per day. We use a combination of the following approaches to teach students remotely:

- Live lessons delivered via Zoom.
- Recorded teaching (for example Oak National Academy lessons, video/audio recordings made by teachers).
- Text books and reading books students have at home.
- Printed resources produced by teachers (such as workbooks, revision guides, worksheets).
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects, including video clips or sequences (for example Seneca, MyMaths, GCSE Pod, Educake).
- Independent work tasks set by teachers (please see **epraise** and **itslearning** messages).
- Optional fitness tasks and challenges will be set for Core PE lessons.

Students should aim to follow their normal school timetable (available on **epraise** – please see the end of this document for further information) and attend live Zoom lessons when they take place. The Zoom lesson timetable will represent approximately 50% of the school timetable; for example students have eight hours of English lessons per fortnight and during remote learning, they will have four hours of live Zoom lessons per fortnight. It is recommended that students highlight on their timetable when their live Zoom lessons will take place. The Zoom timetable is available on the school website.

For lessons which do not take place live via Zoom, students should continue to follow their normal timetable and follow teachers' instructions on **epraise** and **itslearning** so that they are able to access and complete their independent work tasks.

The Zoom timetable we have created helps ensure that students are not exposed to excessive screen time, and to support equitable access for siblings who may be sharing equipment. It is used to introduce new material, give clear explanations and aims to replicate the classroom experience. However live lessons are just one aspect of our remote learning provision. The high expectations of students' behaviour, attitude to learning and attendance that we have in school also apply to the remote learning context.

Please note the following timings of the school day, as this structure remains in place during remote learning:

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri	
Tutor time (Mon only)	8.30
Period 1	8.45
Period 2	9.45
Period 3	11.05
Period 4	12.05
Period 5	1.35

Tues	
Period 1	8.45
Period 2	9.35
PSHE	10.25
Period 3	11.25
Period 4	12.15
Period 5	1.35

What are your expectations for students' engagement and the support that we as parents/carers should provide at home?

We expect students to follow their normal timetable, and aim to engage with learning activities for five hours per day (Zoom lessons and independent work) and maintain high standards of behaviour and attitude to learning.

When students are working remotely, we have the following expectations:

- Students are to attend all timetabled live Zoom lessons. The link to each lesson will be available on the relevant **itslearning** course page and communicated via **epraise**.
- Students are to stay for the duration of the live lesson and engage fully.
- Attendance is being monitored carefully and we will make contact with you if your child has not attended a lesson. Attendance is being recorded and pastoral teams are monitoring students' attendance across the range of subjects.

- Students must identify themselves accurately during live lessons, displaying their correct name.
- Students must communicate appropriately, for example using the chat facility to respond to questions during Zoom lessons, and messaging teachers using the **itslearning** messaging system.
- Students **must not** share links to Zoom lessons with anyone else.
- We are keen to praise students for their engagement and hard work, however we will also demerit students for behaviour which falls short of expectations during Zoom lessons.
- Students should complete all tasks set to the best of their ability.
- Students should upload completed tasks to **itslearning** as directed by their subject teachers.

Please let school staff know if your child is experiencing difficulties with engagement in remote learning and we will try to put appropriate support in place, or liaise with subject staff to address any concerns with lesson or independent work content. Please also aim to check in with your child to see how their remote learning is progressing each day.

We understand and appreciate that this new way of working can be challenging for our students and you as parents/carers. We appreciate all the support you are giving to go above and beyond with remote learning at this time.

It is important to recognise we are doing our very best in unprecedented times.

How will you check whether students are engaging with their work and how will I be informed if there are concerns?

Registers are taken during every live Zoom lesson, and attendance is recorded on the school system. We will contact parents/carers with attendance concerns daily via an automated message.

Any additional contact home will be made by email or by telephone. Teachers, pastoral team members or school support staff may contact parents/carers.

Students' engagement in live Zoom lessons is evidenced through their contribution to class discussion (be this verbally or typed into the chat function), responding to questions and/or quizzes taking place during the lesson. Students are required to submit work completed, either set during the live lessons or for the independent lessons, and the completion of work to deadlines also evidences engagement with remote learning. Where there are concerns, school staff will contact parents/carers. The work set could take the form of consolidation tasks from the live lesson, preparation for the following lesson, uploading completed written tasks or worksheets. Students will also complete scheduled assessments for remote learning tasks in line with subjects' assessment calendars (for example a written response or end of topic test).

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Students will receive regular feedback. Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms (e.g. MyMaths) are valid and effective methods of assessing student progress. The outcomes of quizzes or numerically marked tests (e.g. a mark out of 10) set by the teacher can give a clear indication of students' progress in a unit of study.

Students will receive verbal feedback (both individual and whole class as appropriate) on their work during the live Zoom lessons, and this is important to motivate students during periods of remote learning. This also allows teachers to adapt their lesson content according to students' needs (e.g. re-visiting and re-framing material if students have not fully grasped a concept).

The main method for providing students with written feedback will be through using **itslearning**. This is the platform to which students upload written responses as teachers set work using the assignment function. This written feedback will be specific to the individual and will include a mark or grade appropriate to the subject and key stage requirements.

Please bear in mind that teachers will be working to provide timely feedback to a number of classes and while we aim to ensure that written feedback is turned around with speed, we appreciate your child's patience in awaiting this.

How will you work with me to help students who need additional support from adults at home to access remote learning?

We recognise that some students, for example those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may not be able to access remote learning without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families and we will continue to work with parents and carers to support those students.

Students on the school's SEND register will be supported through regular contact with the SEND co-ordinator and/or staff in the SEND team. Teaching assistants are working both in school to support students in attendance, and also joining the relevant live Zoom lessons to work with SEND students.

Our LSC (Learning Support Centre) will be open to SEND students who are attending school and staff in the LSC will be working with students to ensure that they have the appropriate support to access online work and lessons, and/or are providing alternative work for students in consultation with class teachers.

Our ASC provision (The Nightingale Unit) will remain open and is staffed to allow students attending this provision to continue to work, fully supported, in school.

If a student is not in school because they are self-isolating or shielding, how will their remote learning differ from the approaches described above?

Where individual students need to self-isolate or shield but the majority of their peer group remains in school, remote learning is provided to ensure that students are able to access the curriculum while they are working from home. There are challenges in teaching students both at home and remotely, so the way that work is provided in this instance is slightly different from what has been described above.

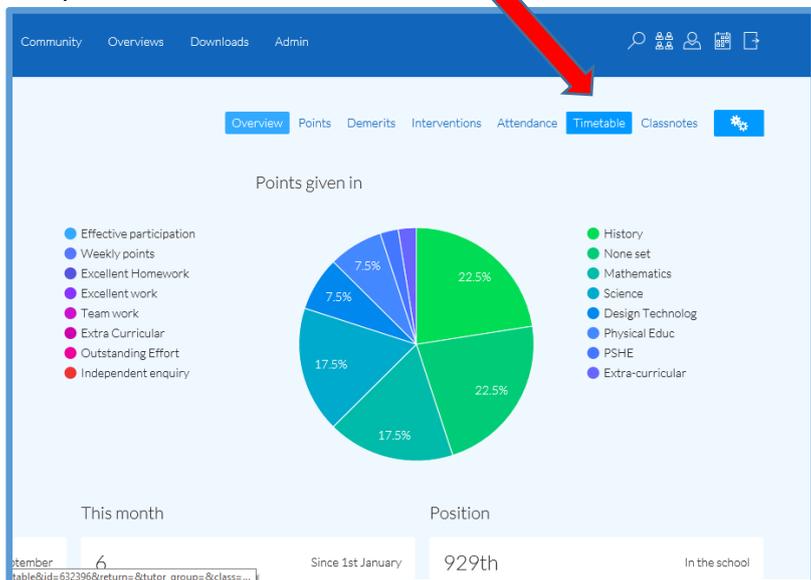
Assuming an absence has been discussed or confirmed with the school, and the student in question is well enough to work from home, the school will provide work for students who are unable to attend in person. If this occurs for an individual student, the collation of work and communication with the parent/carer will be coordinated by the student's Head of House/Assistant Head of House.

The student's subject teachers will use **itslearning** to make work available to the student. If there are any issues with the completion of the work, tutor(s) and subject teacher(s) will liaise to resolve the situation. Students will be directed to the tasks on **itslearning** via a class note on **epraise**.

Work will be set weekly for self-isolating or shielding students, and the work set for each subject will mirror the amount of time a student has on their timetable for each subject. Work will be provided in this way if your son/daughter's absence lasts more than three school days.

Student timetable – Zoom lessons and independent lessons

To ensure that students are organised while working remotely and so they know when they should be joining a live Zoom lesson and when to expect independent work to be set for a lesson, it would be useful for them to keep a copy of their timetable to hand. Students should **highlight** their Zoom lessons for each subject. A blank timetable is printed on the next page for students to write in their lessons, which is found on epraise as follows:

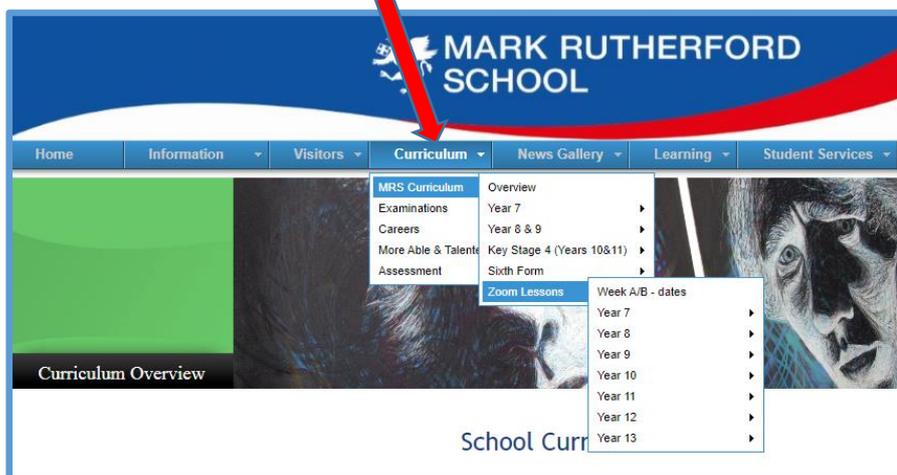


Week commencing	Week A or Week B
25.01	B
01.02	A
08.02	B
15.02	*Half term*
22.02	A
01.03	B
08.03	A
15.03	B
22.03	A
29.03	*Easter holiday*

A red arrow points to the date 29.03 in the table.

Please remember that we follow a two-week timetable, with Week A being different from Week B. Please check the dates on the **epraise** timetable alongside the Week A and Week B information shown here to ensure that student timetables are completed correctly.

A timetable for Zoom lessons can be found on the school website under the Curriculum tab:



Once you have selected your child's year group from the drop-down box, you will then need to know their band within the year group; this information is shown on the **epraise** timetable - see below.

Wed 27th		8y/Sc1 Science Mr Stokes 034 08:55 - 09:55	8y/MI1 Modern Languages Mrs Cullis B11 09:55 - 10:55
Thu 28th		8y/En2 English Mrs Brown 019 08:55 - 09:55	8y/Ma1 Mathematics Miss Delancy 048 09:55 - 10:55

A red arrow points to the '8y/Ma1' cell in the bottom-right corner of the timetable.

You can work out the band that your child is in from their class codes on their **epraise** timetable (e.g. 8y/Ma1 would be the y band).

My timetable

Look at your timetable on **epraise** and be ready to fill in a copy on the tables below. Take care to write the correct lessons in for Week A and Week B.

Write in all your lessons, and **highlight** the lessons that will take place live via Zoom, to remind you when you should be joining a lesson! For your other lessons, remember to check epraise and itslearning so that you know what independent work your teacher has set for you to complete.

All students should be joining their tutor group session on a Monday morning; write in your tutor group number and **highlight** it. Do the same for the **PSHE** lesson on a Tuesday. Please remember that some PSHE lessons may be live via Zoom, while others may not – check your teacher's messages!

Week A

	Tutor time	Period 1	Period 2	PSHE	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday	8.30	8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Tuesday		8.45	9.35	10.25	11.25	12.15	1.35
Wednesday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Thursday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Friday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35

Week B

	Tutor time	Period 1	Period 2	PSHE	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday	8.30	8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Tuesday		8.45	9.35	10.25	11.25	12.15	1.35
Wednesday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Thursday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35
Friday		8.45	9.45		11.05	12.05	1.35