

Remote education provision: information for parents

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education either where individual pupils are self-isolating, or where national or local restrictions require groups or cohorts to remain at home.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

At the time of writing (September 2021), Government policy is to try to ensure that students should be in class to access face-to-face learning wherever possible. Current Department for Education (DfE) policy outlines a requirement for schools and Colleges to provide remote education under the following circumstances:

- A student is absent having been diagnosed with COVID-19 and is well enough to be able to learn remotely.
- A student is absent due to a COVID-19 related reason. This might be if they are suffering symptoms and are awaiting test results or are being asked to self-isolate to help contain the spread of the disease.

The College will be following DfE guidance. Our approach to providing remote education will differ depending on if this is a short-term absence of a few days (such as a student requiring to self-isolate) or a long-term absence, such as a local or national lockdown which may run for a period of weeks.

Short-term absence (up to 10 days, for COVID-19 related reasons)

If a student is absent for a short period of time the following approach will apply:

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

Remote learning will be delivered through Microsoft Teams and the College's online e.brock platform.

How will my child be taught remotely?

Once the College has been notified that a student is absent for a COVID-19 related reason, lecturers will be in touch directly with the student to outline the support available. This will be for up to 10 days, in line with current government policy regarding self-isolation for COVID-19 related reasons. We use a combination of the following approaches to support students remotely:

Teaching will be delivered in a variety of ways depending on the course and the teaching staff. This will include:

- Resource packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- Online course resources on e.brock and MS Teams
- Textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- Commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences (eg YouTube)
- Long-term project work and/or internet research activities
- Live teaching (online lessons), where possible/practical.
- Recorded teaching

Engagement and feedback

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 same number of hours as they would be studying if in class.

All College courses	Work will be set that can be studied at home so that the student can study when and how is most appropriate for them.
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	<p>If live lessons are being delivered these will be at the usual day/time as per the student's normal weekly timetable.</p> <p>Homework / coursework will be set as usual where practical.</p>
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Longer term absence (more than 10 days or where attendance restrictions have been put in place).

There may be a situation where a more systematic closure of all or part of the College is required. This might be where a class or group(s) have to close for a period of time due to an outbreak of COVID-19, or where a change to local or national policies requires the College to close for a period of time, such as another national lockdown.

Should there be a requirement to close part or all of the College we will assess the likely length and the impact on learning and will notify students and parents of the specific course of actions that we will follow. The basic principle, should there be a requirement for a more systematic closure, is set out below.

Accessing remote education

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

Remote learning including live sessions will be delivered through Microsoft Teams.

Students will also have access to e.brock the College's e-learning platform for additional materials and resources.

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

Teaching will be delivered in a variety of ways depending on the course and the teaching staff. This will include:

- live teaching (online lessons)
- recorded teaching
- resource packs produced by teachers (e.g. workbooks, worksheets)
- textbooks and reading books pupils have at home
- commercially available websites supporting the teaching of specific subjects or areas, including video clips or sequences (eg YouTube)
- long-term project work and/or internet research activities

Engagement and feedback

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

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

In the event of a national or local lockdown where the College is required to shut, it is likely that the College would remain open for vulnerable learners and children of key workers. In addition, if a student does not have appropriate facilities to be able to study at home, they can request access to the main College site in order to take advantage of the study facilities. This can be done by request by completing the form which will be available here: <https://www.brock.ac.uk/coronavirus/>

The College has an active programme to provide laptops on a loan basis for students who do not have access to the technology required to work from home. These are prioritised for those in receipt of a bursary, but we will consider applications from all students who can demonstrate a need for equipment to help you study. If you require a laptop please contact Mandy Stevenson mstevenson@brock.ac.uk with your name, student number and the reason why you would like an equipment loan to assist with your studies.

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

- We expect all students to be engaging fully at home. Students will be following their normal timetable, and we expect students to be attending in full.
- Parents should contact the absence line 01590 625530 or attendance@brock.ac.uk in the usual way if a student is unable to attend classes.

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

- Homework and assignments will be set, handed in and marked in the usual way.
- Non-attendance and or engagement will be followed up by the College usually through a student's Student Support Manager or other member of the pastoral support team in the first instance

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:

- Feedback will be provided by a variety of methods
 - Remote assignment / homework marking and feedback
 - Quizzes and tests
 - 1-1 or groups feedback through MS teams

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:

- The College remains open for vulnerable learners and this includes SEND learners.
- SEND learners have all been contacted to ensure that they are able to engage effectively with learning.
- For learners with a learning support assistant, they continue to work with them remotely, including supporting them during live sessions
- Our skills development team continues to support learners remotely
- Additional health and welfare checks are in place for SEND learners.

Adults and Apprenticeships

The provision for adults and apprenticeship will be different depending on the course being studied, for full details please contact the course leader who will be able to provide full details.

- Adult professional skill classes will run online, where possible
- Apprenticeship courses will run online, where possible
- Limited adult leisure provision will run online, where possible
- Employment Support Services will run online, where possible