

Remote Education Provision Information for Students and Parents

Solihull Sixth Form College is not a distance learning provider and as such does not provide students with access to online lessons. The only exceptions to this are during periods of national or local lockdown as dictated by the Department for Education or our Local Councils, and periods when the College is forced to close because of adverse weather conditions or issues with essential services, for example.

When the College has students on site and teaching is taking place in person, livestreaming will not be provided for individual students who are at home.

Livestreaming will not be available for students absent from College because of illness, either physical or mental, for students with ongoing health issues which prevent them from attending in person or for students who are absent for other non-medical reasons or transport issues.

Where a student has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) which specifically states that livestreaming is required, livestreamed lessons will be provided as directed in the plan.

During National/Local Lockdown & College Closure Due to Adverse Weather Conditions or Issues with Essential Services.

Provision of Remote Education

During times of national or local lock-down or when the College is forced to close because of adverse weather conditions, for example, all College activities will move online, as soon as is practically possible. This includes lessons, workshops, personal development sessions, and any activities which can be offered remotely. The timetable will run as usual with all activities taking place via Microsoft Teams at the usual time according to the timetable.

The content of some lessons may have to change, for example in subjects with practical elements and there may be occasions where these aspects of the course need to be replaced by other activities. In such cases, the teacher will adapt lessons and curriculum delivery as necessary.

Student Support and Personal Development

All support departments will also move online including work with Academic Coaches and Personal Development, Central Administration, Careers, Supervised Study, Additional Learning Support and the College Counselling Service. Where these departments usually offer 1-2-1 meetings with students, these will be continued online on Microsoft Teams.

Personal Development sessions will continue as usual and Academic Coaches, Progress Managers and Assistant Principals will offer support to students and parents via telephone calls and online meetings as appropriate.

Where a student is not engaging in online learning either by not attending or through lack of participation in lessons or disruptive behaviour, our usual behaviour management processes will be followed. Teachers, Academic Coaches and Curriculum Leaders will communicate with students offering help and advice and setting expectations for attendance. Where this does not bring about the required change in engagement, Progress Managers and Assistant Principals will offer support and reiterate expectations in line with our behaviour management processes.

Similar processes will be followed where a student is not submitting work to teachers by the deadlines set.

Students with an EHCP or those receiving ongoing Support from Additional Learning Support

For those students who are already accessing ongoing support from the Additional Learning Support team, this support will continue as usual but move online. The nature of the support will be flexible and based on the student's need at the time.

The Additional Learning Support Team will contact students and parents by email at the start of any period of lock-down to explain the support available online.

For students who have in-class support from a Learning Support Enabler, virtual in-class support will continue with the Learning Support Enabler joining the classroom lesson livestream on Teams.

Students receiving out-of-lesson support from an Enabler will still receive this support either by telephone or on Teams as appropriate.

All 1-2-1 meetings will move online using Teams and will take place virtually, either by email, telephone or on Teams dependant on need and preference.

Vulnerable Students

Students who are classed as 'vulnerable' will be contacted at the start of any lock-down period to ensure that any additional support needed is put in place, and that the student is clear about how to contact the College should they need to do so.

The SENCO will ensure that all vulnerable students, Looked After Children, Care Leavers and students who have a social worker are contacted.

1-2-1 Support will continue and will be tailored to meet the individual need of the student. This may be through emails, telephone calls or online meetings.

Members of the Safeguarding Team will continue to attend CIN (Child in Need) meetings or CP (child protection) conferences joining online meetings when invited. Child protection referrals to children's services and assessments for Early Help will continue to be submitted by the team as appropriate.

During times of national or local lock-down, we will open the site if directed to do so by national government or local authorities, to support vulnerable students.

Student Participation

Students are expected to join all lessons on time according to their usual timetable unless there are genuine reasons for absence. Absence from online lessons will be marked as such and will affect a student's overall attendance.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure they can join the relevant Teams Platform for their lessons and Personal Development sessions.

When joining online, lessons students must be appropriately dressed and located in a suitable place in their home. They should inform other members of their household when they are in a lesson so that others can avoid appearing in the background.

The College's behaviour management processes still apply during online lessons and students are expected to behave as they would in a face-to-face lesson.

If a student is unable to join livestreamed Teams lessons because of a lack of IT equipment or connectivity, the College can provide increased data in some cases. Students and parents should contact the Bursary Team for advice.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding contact and support are available for all students during College closures.