

Aldwickbury Remote Working Guide and FAQs for Parents

Will you be delivering the entire curriculum to the boys?

For each age group, staff have looked at their plans and adapted them accordingly. We will aim to deliver as much of the curriculum as possible. We have also considered the boys that have entrance tests coming up and made adaptations to their suggested timetables. It will take time to settle into a period of school closure and get used to working in a different way. Staff will do everything possible to ensure that every boy continues to make progress across the curriculum

Will you be delivering lessons by webcam?

We have plans in place to use webcams to deliver both tutorials and lessons to boys across the entire school. We will be training all staff on the technology available. It is new for both us and the boys – so it will be a learning curve for us all!

How will you deliver work to the boys?

We will use a variety of methods to get work to the boys. This will vary according to their age and the subject:

Atom Learning	Atom Learning's platform uses sophisticated technology to offer adaptive verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests as well as Maths and English tuition. We will use their resources as an additional tool for preparing the boys for entrance tests. We have fast-forwarded our roll-out of this platform so we can include Years 6 & 7. Atom may offer their platform to other year groups and we will contact parents as soon as this is available. Contact details for Atom are support@atomlearning.co.uk
Languages online or Quizlet	These are designed to help teach Modern Foreign Languages or Latin. The teachers use them in school and the boys will be familiar with them already. Quizlet is helpful for learning vocabulary.
MyMaths	This will be used from Y1 to Y8 to help deliver Maths assignments.
Seesaw	This is an App that the boys and staff use in Pre-Prep to record their work. It has an option to share work assignments as well. We intend to use Seesaw as our main means of sharing work with you and the boys.
Showbie	Showbie is a cloud-based classroom that boys already use in school from Years 3-8. It allows the boys and teachers to send work to and from each other without the need for an email account. Teachers can also mark work and add comments. It's ideal for many subjects – Science, English, R.S., Geography, Music and Drama. https://support.showbie.com/en/collections/2201651-distance-learning-with-showbie
<i>Boys should be aware of their login details already. If you have any problems logging in, please email their tutor or form teacher.</i>	
Teachers may also use other apps, websites and electronic teaching methods to help to support your son in his learning.	
Email – in many cases it may be appropriate for your sons' teachers to email work directly to your home account. We will aim to deliver work in advance, so you have plenty of time to print off worksheets. If your son has his own email account, please ensure he also cc's a parental email into all correspondence with school. Staff will also cc parents into any email communication in response.	

How do we structure our day at home?

We have created a 'suggested' timetable for each Year group to give you an idea how to structure your day at home. It is to give you an idea of how long your son should work each day and when to take breaks. We expect the boys to get up, get dressed and have breakfast as if it were a normal day. The boys will then 'check in' with their Form Teachers/Tutors in an age appropriate way. We will explain more on this process later.

What can I do to support my son?

You should encourage and support your son. For the older boys, this includes finding an appropriate place for him to work and checking that the work is completed by the end of each day. Also ensuring that the 'suggested timetable' is followed as closely as possible. The amount of help you give to your son will depend on their age. Younger boys will require much more direct adult support and a lot of their work will be of a practical nature.

We appreciate that you will also be trying to manage your own working commitments. Many of our staff will also have their own children at home. This is a highly unusual situation and it is likely that an extended closure will be stressful for everyone involved.

What device should I use?

We appreciate that every family has a variety of different devices in their homes. The websites listed above will work on a computer, laptop or tablet. Seesaw works best on a tablet, especially as they are most accessible to younger children. Given that we are unsure on the length of time schools will be closed, please do not purchase a new device unless you can see yourself using it in the longer term. Form Teachers and Tutors will be able to help advise how best to complete and return the work.

What happens if my son or a family member is ill?

If your son is unwell and, under normal circumstances he would not be well enough to go to school, then please do let him rest and recover. As he returns to good health, start to allow him to complete some work but still allow time for him to rest. Please do get in touch with his Form Teacher or Tutor so they are aware of the situation.

If a family member is ill, then please do contact the Form Teacher or Tutor to make them aware.

What should I do if my son is worried about his work?

Please do let his Form Teacher or Tutor know that he is worried about his work. If he is unsure about a task or subject, he (or you for younger boys) can send messages to the teachers via Showbie, Seesaw, MyMaths and the other applications we are using.

Will you be continuing one-to-one lessons?

We know how much the boys enjoy their extra-curricular activities and accessing a broad curriculum. In the event of an extended school closure, we very much hope to continue individual Music, LAMDA and Learning Support lessons for the boys via a webcam. It will take time to organise the logistical element of remote one-to-one lessons, so please do bear with us.

Acceptable use of Technology

All pupils and parents should ensure that the School's Acceptable Use of Technology Policy is adhered to. A copy of this can be found in the boys' planners (Years 5-8) and on the school website.

Parents are responsible for overseeing their behaviour in the context of all email communication and electronic work submitted.

When will staff be available?

Staff will still be in school or accessing work from home. Although they will not be ‘in class’ teaching they will be preparing work, marking and undertaking other duties. Staff will endeavour to mark work and get feedback to pupils as soon as they reasonably can. The boys should be aware that this cannot be instantaneous even though they are working digitally. In the event of a staff member being unwell, we will advise who is covering their responsibilities.

Your son’s Form Teacher or Tutor should be the first point of contact for any pastoral or academic issues. For Years 5 to 8, the subject teachers can also be contacted if you have questions related to their subject. They will be available to contact by email during a normal working day. You could also arrange a time to speak by telephone if you prefer.

Other staff will also be available for you to contact: Mrs Latimer (Head of Pre-Prep), Mrs. Courquin (Head of Juniors), Mr. Schanschieff (Deputy Head), Mr. Lott (Director of Studies), Mrs. Pendell (Head of Individual Learning), Mr. Eketone (Head of Digital Learning) as well as the Office Staff. All staff email addresses are available on the school’s website.