

Remote Education Provision

Information for Parents

September 2022



Peter Symonds 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 Hampshire County Council, and periods when the College is forced to closed because of adverse weather conditions.

In periods during which 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, testing positive with Covid, ongoing health issues which prevent them from attending in person, 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 only as a short-term adjustment if the student is unable to attend for a limited time, and usually for no longer than 10 days. Due to the nature of study, livestreaming will not be possible for practical aspects of certain subjects for example Performing Arts.

During National / Local Lockdown & College Closure Due to Adverse Weather Conditions:

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, all College activities will move online. This includes lessons, workshops, tutorial sessions, and any activities which can be offered remotely. The timetable will run as usual with all activities taking place via Google classroom 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 Engagement and Pastoral Support

All support departments will also move online including Student Services, Study Skills, Faculty Administration, Careers, Study Support, the Hub wellbeing service

and College counselling service. Where these departments usually offer 1-2-1 meetings with students, these will be continued using online meeting platforms.

The College's pastoral processes including progress monitoring and support will continue as usual and pastoral teams including tutors, Senior Tutors and Directors of Curriculum & Support 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 support process will be followed. Teachers, Tutors and Heads of Subject will communicate with students offering help and advice and setting expectations for attendance. Where this does not bring about the required change in engagement, Senior Tutors and ultimately Directors of Curriculum & Support will offer support and reiterate expectations.

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 The Study Support Team

For those students who are already receiving ongoing support from the Study 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 Study 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 Assistant, virtual in-class support will continue with the LSA joining the google classroom lesson livestream

All pre-arrange 1-2-1 meetings with Specialist Teachers will move online using Google Meets

Students receiving out-of-lesson support from an LSA will still receive this support either by telephone or video call as appropriate

Any student having 1-2-1 appointments with members of the Study Support team will find that these take place virtually, either by email, telephone or video call 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 student services team will contact any Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

A member of the faculty pastoral team will contact any student who has a social worker.

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.

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 Google Classroom for their lessons and tutorial and should contact the relevant member of staff if they are unable to do so.

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 student code of conduct still applies during online lessons and students are expected to behave as they would in a face to face lesson. For example, smoking or vaping is not acceptable.

If a student is unable to join livestreamed lessons because of a lack of IT equipment or connectivity, the College may be able to help. We have laptops which we are able to loan to students and can help with payments for increased data in some cases. Students and parents should contact Student Services for advice.