



24 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Remote Teaching and Learning Y7-10

Firstly thank you again for supporting your child's learning at home. We are also extremely grateful for the feedback from parents and thank you especially to those who have sent lovely messages; it inspires and motivates us to know that we are making a difference. I would also like to thank the parents who are NHS staff or key workers for everything you are doing for our country; you are all truly inspirational.

This is an ever changing time for all of us where nobody can control or predict timeframes. As a result we are continually reviewing and tweaking our approach whilst maintaining a consistent routine and structure, as continual and reactive changes are not effective for students, staff or parents.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND PARENTS

As a truly comprehensive school we have a very wide range of students from different backgrounds all with very different needs. We will adapt learning to suit student needs and circumstances if the model we present below is unrealistic. If your child has an educational health care plan (EHCP) or special education needs and disabilities (SEND) our learning support department is working with teachers, parents and students to support and adapt online learning and you will hear from them further.

Many of our students will be observing Ramadan and we fully appreciate that this may present challenges. Students have already been emailed to let them know we are aware that they may need to adapt how they work and that we are in full support of this. Please see the attached guidance in the Frequently Asked Questions document.

Ultimately, we trust you as parents to make the judgement to adapt how much work students complete accordingly and trust you to decide what is best for your child. As lockdown continues it is important that we put the wellbeing of students (but also staff and parents) at the forefront of our mind. Many of you may worry that your child will form gaps in learning during lockdown; we will ensure that on return to school that students who need additional support will be provided with this so that no child is at a disadvantage. Please remember that all schools across the country are in the same position.

Like you many of our staff are also working from home whilst caring for their own children therefore we fully appreciate how challenging it is. If you or your child need any support please do not hesitate in contacting your child's tutor in the first instance. You can also refer to the wellbeing section on the parent and student portal for additional advice.

SETTING OF WORK

All students will continue to be set 5 tasks on the days according to the **online learning** timetable (see below) via the relevant Google Classroom. All students have been emailed a document that details all of

the codes they need to access the classrooms and the full list of codes can be found on our frequently asked questions document.

We are trying to strike a balance with the amount of work being set but allow flexibility to suit the needs of individuals. We have asked teachers to set tasks that are 30 minutes long with **optional** extension tasks. For students who feel they can't work beyond 30 minutes this is the point at which they stop. We do also recognise however, that some of our students are finding learning tasks helpful and want to learn for longer, therefore they can try the extension tasks. For students who feel they are not receiving enough work they can go onto GCSE Pod and BBC Bitesize for additional learning experiences (see the FAQ document for details). Reading for pleasure is also something we would greatly encourage as this is not only great for improving literacy it is also a fantastic way to relax and improve wellbeing. Other very valuable learning experiences can be exercise, cooking and music and art activities.

Many of you may be wondering why we are not teaching live lessons or using video conferencing. Whilst we recognise the value of face to face interaction, due to safeguarding concerns and staff circumstances, we are using technology to support learning in the best way we can at the moment. Online and personal safety for our students and staff is paramount and we are not prepared to put either at risk until staff are confident that the technology is safe to use. We are investing a large amount of time on how to provide meaningful feedback to students as much research shows that this is the most powerful strategy in raising student achievement.

Please be assured that staff are working incredibly hard to deliver effective teaching and learning and we are all passionate about ensuring that your child has a valuable and realistic experience.

MAKING CONTACT

We are trying to respond to emails as quickly as possible. Staff are receiving a very high volume of emails daily therefore in order to spread the load and assist in responding in a timely manner please use your child's tutor as a first means of contact. If the issue is specifically to do with the work then your child can email the relevant teacher directly.

Do take care of yourselves and stay safe and please do not hesitate in contacting us if you need help or have any questions. We have also created a Frequently Asked Questions document that you may like to refer to first [Frequently Asked Questions - Covid-19](#). We are all here to support you and your child during this difficult time.

Kindest regards,



Kate Cooper
Assistant Principal (Teaching and Learning)

TIMETABLE Y7, 8, 9

KS3	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5
MON	PE	HISTORY	MATHS	ENGLISH	PSHE/HOUSE
TUE	LANGUAGES	MUSIC	SCIENCE	GEOGRAPHY	COMPUTING
WED	PE	MATHS	ENGLISH	SCIENCE	ART
THU	LANGUAGES	ENGLISH	RS	MATHS	SCIENCE
FRI	STEAM	STEAM	DRAMA	LANGUAGES	FOOD

TIMETABLE Y10

Y10	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5
MON	CORE PE	ENGLISH	MATHS	OPTION B	OPTION C
TUE	OPTION A	ENGLISH	MATHS	OPTION B	PHYSICS
WED	CORE PE	ENGLISH	MATHS	OPTION C	PHYSICS
THU	OPTION A	ENGLISH	MATHS	CHEMISTRY	BIOLOGY
FRI	OPTION A	OPTION B	OPTION C	CHEMISTRY	BIOLOGY

OPTION A (Class 10A)	OPTION B (Class 10B)	OPTION C (Class 10C)
Art & Design Geography 10A History 10A RS Business 10A Engineering PE	Art French Geography 10B History 10B Spanish 10B Business 10B Performing Arts ASDAN	Food Geography 10C History 10C Music Spanish 10C Computer Science Drama