

## Home Learning Update

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we adapt to the new world of 'distance learning'. Staff are working incredibly hard to set work for your children to keep their minds active and so that they can continue to learn and not fall behind. We understand that this is a difficult time for parents and students and we will continue to do our very best to support you and your children.

Please may we reiterate the following points:

1. Students do not need to print off work sent. Writing answers on paper is absolutely fine.
2. We will try and include the Year Group of work set via email so parents with more than one child can be clear about which tasks are for which students.
3. If you are struggling to access SharePoint please contact the office email and we will refer you to our IT support team.
4. Students do not need their exercise books to complete tasks.
5. Where you are struggling to complete work set, please consider something alternative (see suggestions below)

General advice:

1. Establish a clear week day routine: get dressed, have breakfast and be ready to start work at 9.00 am.
2. Follow the school timetable where possible. Remember to build in breaks.
3. Try keeping active with 'Joe Wicks' on You Tube
4. Where you are struggling to complete the work set by staff consider doing one of the following instead: independent reading (online books available) or newspapers (Guardian online is free) or try additional maths watch/other online maths challenges.
5. You could set students a project like designing their own desert island. This could include: writing survival instructions, writing a letter in a bottle, writing a diary, writing a newspaper article about an interesting event, writing an argumentative piece about whether it's better to live alone or with people, create recipes for making 'island' food, write a short story about a great storm.
6. Play board games, cards, complete crosswords, Sudoku, keep connected by face timing friends.
7. Teach your children some core life skills: let them help you prepare and cook food, gardening, clear out bedrooms.

We have outlined below details of what can be expected for each Year Group.

### Year 13

1. Students who have coursework/Btec work to complete should make this a priority. They should be in regular contact with their teachers to receive feedback (if appropriate) to ensure that the work submitted is the highest grade possible. This will certainly be used to inform their final result.
2. Students who may consider sitting their A Level exam (if they do not agree with the grade they are awarded in the summer) should continue to complete exam work set by their teachers. They should use mark schemes and example answers to self-mark where possible.
3. Additionally, for those students going to university next academic year, they should explore university websites and see if there is any advice on pre-reading activities.

## **Year 12**

1. Students should continue to complete the work set by staff.
2. Moving forward, students will be more regularly expected to email in key pieces of work to be assessed by teachers and feedback provided.
3. Students can also begin to create revision materials for the work that has been covered so far. This could include mind maps, flashcards etc. Get Revising is a great website to use to help with this.

## **Year 11**

1. Students who have coursework/Btec work to complete should make this a priority. They should be in regular contact with their teachers to receive feedback (if appropriate) to ensure that the work submitted is the highest grade possible. This will certainly be used to inform their final result.
2. Students may wish to consider completing work set by their teacher even though exams have been cancelled. This would be beneficial to keep the brain active, but also continue learning in case students want to sit an exam in the autumn term if they are not happy with the grade they receive in the summer.
3. Teachers will also be sending work out to support students who are continuing with A Levels next year. This may include pre reading, short tasks, research activities. It will be labelled on SharePoint as 'preparing for Yr12 work'.
4. Students can also continue to use Maths Watch to keep up with their maths skills.
5. We would also recommend that students continue to read, whether that be fiction or non fiction such as newspaper (The Guardian on line is free). Simple tasks can be completed such as: summarise the chapter/whole text in 5 sentences; pick 3 words and write down the effect they have on the reader; explain how the start of the text 'hooks' them in and how and why the text ends in the way it does. Additionally, practice writing by attempting the following tasks: write a letter (to a friend about a holiday they are looking forward to going on), write a series of diary entries (what they have been doing in the last 2 weeks and how that's changing), write a newspaper article (make up a scandal involving a gang of rabbit bank robbers), write a descriptive piece (go out into the garden and describe what you see).

## **Year 10**

1. Students should continue to complete the work set by staff.
2. Moving forward, students will be more regularly expected to email in key pieces of work to be assessed by teachers and feedback provided.
3. Students can also begin to create revision materials for the work that has been covered so far. This could include mind maps, flashcards etc. Get Revising is a great website to use to help with this.

## **Years 7-9**

1. Students should continue to complete the work set by staff.
2. If students are struggling with some tasks, try something else instead (see ideas above – especially extra reading).

As and when the situation changes, we will write to you again.

Please continue to support your children's learning by encouraging them to complete work on a regular basis.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lord

Associate Assistant Headteacher