

17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

This period has been challenging for everyone and we hope you're all adjusting well in these difficult circumstances. We wanted to get in touch with all our parents/carers to let you know about our approach to home learning and what we're expecting from you and your children.

Our amazing staff have been working hard to make sure we can continue to provide education for your children. As a reminder, work will continue to be posted on showmyhomework over the next two weeks.

We hope you can understand that we can't deliver the same sort of education we do when the school is fully open, but your children won't miss out by not being in school at the moment. We've tried to keep everyone's workloads – both pupils learning at home and those in school – comparable, appropriate and realistic during this turbulent period.

Please don't worry about your children getting behind with learning. Everyone is in the same boat, and when things get back to normal, we'll make sure we get everyone back on track.

We are aware that some families in our community don't have the technology/time/circumstances at home to support online learning to its full extent and we are focusing on supporting pupils to learn in the most widely accessible ways possible.

For key stage 3, we have changed the timetable we have been using - a copy of the new schedule is below. This is what the staff will be following from Monday 20th and we suggest that pupils working at home follow the basic timings also. The main thinking behind this structure for years 7, 8 and 9 is:

- to maintain a curriculum structure which best results in progress for all pupils
- to protect the mental and physical wellbeing of our pupils and their families
- to support parents, carers and families in the delivery of the learning.

We will review this over the next 2 weeks and will let you know if we decide to change our approach.

As mentioned in the letter before Easter, the year 10 exams due to take place during the week beginning the 27th April will go ahead. The exam timetable was posted on showmyhomework and on the school website by Mr Coyle. The work set for year 10s to complete at home during that week will be the examinations set by staff. It is important that we/you stick to the timings for this as best you can.

For year 11, we will be looking at what students have indicated they are interested in pursuing from September and will try to organize some work that will support them. This is going to be crucial: to not have done any studying for 5 months in the run up to post 16 courses could take its toll.

Supporting learning at home - the government has pulled together a helpful list websites (the link is below) to support learning at home, which have been identified by some of the country's leading educational experts. They offer a wide range of support and resources for pupils of all ages. They are currently being offered for free.





The list includes subject-specific resources for:

- English
- maths
- <u>science</u>
- PE
- wellbeing
- Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

Individual resources cannot replace a school's properly planned curriculum, and the resources in this list are not intended to do so. They may be useful for parents in considering how they could support their children's education, but they should not be used in place of existing resources which schools may be using as part of their continued provision for pupils' education at this time.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education'

If you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by contacting us on 01298 23167.

If you are finding it hard at home with your child and are struggling to cope, call <u>Family Lives</u> for free, confidential advice on **0808 800 2222.** If you are worried about the safety of another child in our community, please call school, the <u>NSPCC</u> on **0808 800 5000** or call the police on **999** if you think a child is in immediate danger.

If you are concerned about the symptoms of the virus, please find advice for those with symptoms or living with someone with symptoms on the NHS website https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/.

We're extremely grateful for all the support we've received so far from the school community.

Yours sincerely

SMULLE.

Sean McClafferty

CEO

M∤r B Hickey

Headteacher

Please see below for new curriculum timetable



Click <u>here for the link for the Joe Wicks Live Streaming PE</u> or google Joe Wicks Live PE Year 7

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00.	Joe Wicks (30 mins)				
9.45.	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	Maths (15mins)
10.00.	English (30mins)	English (30mins)	Maths (30mins)	English (30mins)	English (30mins)
11.00.	Maths (30mins)	Geog (30mins)	Science (30mins)	French (30mins)	RE (30 mins)
12.00.	Science (30mins)	History (30mins)	Computing (30mins)	Maths (30mins)	Science (30mins)
pm	Music	Food	Art	Drama	Tech

Year 8

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Joe Wicks (30	Joe Wicks (30	Joe Wicks (30	Joe Wicks (30	Joe Wicks (30
9.00.	mins)	mins)	mins)	mins)	mins)
9.45.	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	Maths (15mins)	RE (15 mins)
10.00.	English (30mins)	English (30mins)	English (30mins)	RE (30 mins)	English (30mins)
				Computing	
11.00.	Geog (30mins)	Maths (30mins)	Maths (30mins)	(30mins)	Maths (30mins)
				Languages	
12.00.	History (30mins)	Science (30mins)	Science (30mins)	(30mins)	Science (30mins)
pm	Drama	Tech	Music	Food	Art

Year 9

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Joe Wicks (30				
9.00.	mins)	mins)	mins)	mins)	mins)
9.45.	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)	Maths (15mins)	RE (15 mins)	RE (15 mins)
10.00.	English (30mins)	English (30mins)	RE (30 mins)	English (30mins)	English (30mins)
	Computing				
11.00.	(30mins)	Maths (30mins)	Science (30mins)	Maths (30mins)	Maths (30mins)
			Languages	Science	
12.00.	Science (30mins)	Geog (30mins)	(30mins)	(30mins)	History (30mins)
pm	Art	Music	Art	Tech	Food

Y10 – to follow the normal timetable for week 1; exam timetable for week 2 (see website)

Y11 - information to follow

