

We hope that you are well and coping with the challenging situation that we are currently facing. This term, our staff will continue to set work via email and will respond to students via the school email system also.

Most students are engaging with the work at some level, although it is worth making the following points which may help to address some of the fears and anxieties parents and children may have:

- Children should use the work set by their teachers to strengthen and deepen existing knowledge and skills and to retain good study habits and routines.
- New content and skills linked to planned assessments and exams will be taught in full when we return to school.
- Mental and physical health can be best supported through viewing home school work as revision and extension of previous knowledge, rather than as a replacement for school lessons.

If students would welcome some reassurance that they are keeping up good study habits and covering all subjects, the attached 'Suggested timetable for Years 7 – 10', which is also available on the school website, may help to give additional structure.

However, as not all students or parents are currently able to keep to school times, this framework is totally flexible and intended only as a guide.

For work that is completed during this period, please keep it in a hard copy or electronic folder to be marked on our return to school. This will enable teachers to give clear feedback at the appropriate time. Teachers are available throughout this period to give support, guidance and advice via the school email system. All teacher emails are available on the school website.

Questions students may have:

Do I need to follow the 'Suggested timetable for Years 7-10'?

- The new 'Suggested timetable' is intended as a guide only for those children and parents who would welcome more guidance and structure to the week.
- As long as you are engaging with the work set across a range of subjects, that is all that we require of you.

If I do not complete all of the work set, will I be behind when school reopens and fail my exams?

- No. The work set during this period is designed to re-inforce and extend the knowledge and skills already taught in school.
- New content and skills will be taught once school is open again.
- Teachers have set a range of work for you to be able to challenge yourself and to ensure that you have plenty of activities to engage with.

- Some children will complete more tasks and activities than others, as long as students are engaging with work regularly, the quantity completed is not important.
- Keeping to study routines will help you maintain good study habits until school re-opens and teachers can pick up from where they left off.
- For Year 10 and Year 12, revision of exam content and skills already taught in school is particularly important given it will be tested in your examinations next summer.
- If you need further support, reassurance or guidance, email your teacher using your school email account.
- All teacher email addresses are available on the school website.

How can I complete work that has been sent in electronic form?

- The Academy has sent work in a pdf. format to allow it to be accessed on all types of electronic devices.
- Work can be printed out and completed, answers can be written straight onto lined paper or work can be produced and saved electronically on a platform that works for you.

What do I do if I do not have access to electronic devices at home?

- The Academy can arrange for hard copy work to be sent home to you on a weekly basis. Please contact your Head of Year via email to be added to the mailing list.

Do I need to spend all of my study time on the computer doing all of the work set?

No. Try to vary your study habits.

1. Reading for pleasure – novels/plays/poetry. There are links to some free ebook resources on the school website.
2. Writing for pleasure – stories/poems – on whatever subject that inspires you. You can also take part in the English department’s weekly writing competitions.
3. Creative projects based on an area of interest – sport, history, geography, arts.
4. Conversations and activities at home are important social and learning activities which will support school work.
5. Physical exercise is important, so at least 30 minutes should be put aside each day for this e.g. Joe Wicks.

It is important that young people stay mentally healthy, motivated, reassured and positive. Keeping a regular study timetable will help this to happen.

When school is open again, we will assume that students have accessed and engaged in a variety of work and kept up good study habits. Anything parents can do to ensure that this happens will benefit students on their return to school.

Teachers and support staff are always available on school emails if you need their support. Tutors will be checking in on students during this period also.