



**RESPECT
INTEGRITY
COMPASSION**

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Dear parent/carers,

Remote Learning

Given the announcement from the First Minister on Tuesday 19th January 2021, we will be adapting our remote learning provision to take account of the now planned longer period of time. The current format and use of the google platform will continue, however, we will publish weekly a live interaction timetable to support learning further.

The current provision has been developed over the first lockdown period with feedback from pupils, staff and parents. The current provision includes;

Weekly Learning Grids: These provide an overview of what areas of learning will be covered in the coming week with specific learning details posted within pupils google classrooms. This approach was developed based on our feedback,

- Families require the flexibility to complete learning tasks along with other competing demands such as work commitments.
- Not all young people have their own device within a household, therefore, following a rigid timetable proved difficult if timetabled classes clashed.
- Learning could be planned around each families circumstance.

Learning Provision: Learning at home cannot replicate learning in school and staff have tried to ensure a range of approaches and tasks are set each week. The variety of approaches continues to develop as staff become more aware, skilled and competent using the resources available. Our current learning provision includes,

- Prepared materials posted in google classrooms.
- Recorded lessons / videos by staff to enable pupils to access and review repeatedly.
- Online assessment and study support revision materials.
- Relevant links and further online resources.
- Live interactions through google meet.

Supporting Families: Our pupil support team continue to work with a number of young people and families who request or require further support. This includes direct support and or accessing other agencies. It is not possible to anticipate all potential issues that a young person or family may encounter at this very challenging time, therefore, we publish the school update regularly including the contact details of the relevant year heads should anyone require to get in touch for support in anyway.

Devices and Internet Access: Throughout both lockdown periods we have sought to gather information from all families regarding access to devices and internet connection. Following this we have issued every piece of equipment available to us. This has been a challenge and we prioritised trying to ensure every family had access and at least a device that could be used for learning. To date we have issued,

- Chromebooks we received as our allocation from the education service.
- iPads we had in school which have been re-purposed to enable pupils to take home.
- Laptops, including re-purposing staff devices, to allocate to pupils.
- Devices to enable internet access at home.

We continue to seek more devices and when they become available, they will be immediately offered to families. This has been a significant challenge for the school as it is not a resource within our control, but we are seeking other solutions to ensure every young person can access their learning.

SQA: The Faculty Teams have continued to monitor closely the progression of pupils in all subject areas. The continual new information that becomes available, including new guidance this week, has been discussed and planned for to ensure we can support all young people to demonstrate their ability levels. Subject areas will focus on ensuring the foundations of the course are in place and pupils can be assessed fully on the work that has been covered. Further information will soon be available to parents and carers regarding examination arrangements nationally, but we continue to be in a strong position to support our young people. This term we will be direct messaging parents and carers where we have concerns regarding engagement and or quality of work being produced. This is to ensure we can present all young people for the awards they are currently sitting.

Learning Support: Similar to being in school we have a number of young people who benefit from a little extra support. Although we cannot replicate in-school support we have the following provision currently operating,

- Learning Centre teaching staff supporting English and Maths lessons where support for literacy and numeracy is required.
- Learning support assistants added to google classrooms to engage with pupils on a 1 to 1 basis and provide enhanced support.
- Targeted support online for young people around health and wellbeing.
- Regular contact with families to provide a level of holistic support where required.

Quality Assurance: All members of the senior management team are included in a range of google classrooms that covers all teaching staff within the school. This is replicated by Faculty Heads to review learning and teaching approaches and our Pupil Support team to review meeting pupil needs and support. This information alongside parental feedback is discussed weekly with planned interventions to improve our service. From our feedback we are currently developing,

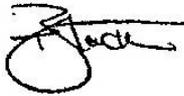
- Range of resources including apps such as MOTE (enables staff to leave voice feedback on work).
- Systems and approaches to increase differentiation and enable choice for young people in the tasks they complete.
- Increased offer of 'live interactions'

- Process to communicate with parents and carers regularly where engagement and or quality of work is a concern.
- Information gathering from families to enable a better understanding of what works and what could be improved and or any information that may help us as a school, better co-ordinate and plan learning for our young people.

I hope this information gives all parents and carers a fuller picture of our current provision and confidence that we continue to support families and improve our provision to the best of our ability under the current circumstances.

Regardless of the current situation, if any parent and or carer has a concern, please get in touch with the relevant year head and they will be delighted to help in anyway.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Black', with a large circular flourish at the end.

Tom Black
Head Teacher