



17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Supporting Learning at Home – from 20th April 2020

As you are aware, the school will be closed to most students for at least the next three weeks. We recognise that these are challenging times for many families, dealing with the pressures of social isolation and juggling working from home whilst trying to manage and support children with their learning.

In order to provide further support and guidance we have identified below some practical advice to try and make home learning as effective as possible.

- Provide your child with structure to their work - create a daily routine and stick to it. It is unreasonable to expect students to work for the same amount of time that they study at school. Shorter chunks of work of approximately 45 minutes will be more productive than extended periods of study. There are a variety of ways in which the day could be structured, an example of which is below.

Example of a structured working day.

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:15	Login to Show My Homework to identify the work set for the day. (Note in planner)
9:15 – 10:00	Subject 1
10:00 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 11:15	Complete subject 1 and / or start subject 2
11:15 – 11:45	Break
11:45 – 12:30	Complete subject 2
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 2:00	Physical Activity – going for a walk, cycle, completing Joe Wick's class etc
2:00 – 2:15	Break
2:15 – 3:00	Completing any remaining work
3pm	Tick off work completed in school planner. Finish for the day.

- Instead of watching over your child to keep them on task, begin each day with a conversation about the work to be completed and together agree regular slots for them to show you what has been achieved. In the conversation you can discuss any learning barriers and help remove them.
- Check in regularly with your child, encouraging them to keep to their timetable but be prepared to be flexible if needed. For example, if they are working on a task and they want more time, let it extend where possible.
- Designate a quiet working space at home if possible and at the end of the day have a clear cut-off to signal school time is over.



- Timetable regular breaks into the day and encourage them to stay hydrated, as well as having opportunities for taking exercise and getting fresh air (in line with Public Health guidelines).
- **If it's not working, change it!** If your child is struggling with a task and you don't know how to help them, then don't be afraid to move them on. The task can be revisited later if needed.
- Consider any wider support you could offer – can you assist with their learning from what you find together in the garden, or from online resources / documentaries? The [BBC Bitesize website](#) is a good resource, and free!
- Encourage your child to record in their School Planner what they did each day – this can be a clear sign that the 'school' day has ended and provides a good starting point to the next day's learning.
- Accept that children will probably watch more TV/spend time on their phone – but you might want to set/agree some screen time limits. Remember online safety still applies, so check your child's phone regularly and set parental controls where possible.
- Recognise that your child may be anxious about missing school or feeling overwhelmed by the work at times. We regularly review the work being set and have listened to the feedback from parents regarding the amount that students are able to complete. Many subjects are also providing optional tasks for faster learners. It is hard to replicate a school day but children will be set work according to the home learning timetabled established (see below).

	KS3	KS4	KS5
Monday	English & Geography	Option A & Science	Option A Subject
Tuesday	Maths & History	Option B & English	Option B Subject
Wednesday	Languages & Science	Option C & Maths	Option C Subject
Thursday	Art & Performing Arts & ICT	Option D & English	Option D Subject
Friday	RE & D&T	Maths & Science	

- Encourage your child to read the announcements from teachers and upload work for marking, when requested.
- Encourage your child to read daily for at least 30 minutes. If they are not engaged with reading or require additional support they may find listening to audio books helpful.

Please stay positive and do not underestimate the importance of the role you are playing. See this as an opportunity to spend time together. Be flexible; stop when you need to and adjust accordingly. You know your child better than anyone else.

As a school we have listened to feedback from groups of students, teachers and parents in order to review our practice to setting work. We have given further guidance to teachers on the type of work to set. At this stage, some new learning may be introduced alongside reviewing topics already covered.

If you need to contact school

If you have any queries regarding Show My Homework please contact Mr Styles via email on k.styles@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk or click on the links below:

<https://help.teamsatchel.com/en/collections/1695417-students>

<https://help.teamsatchel.com/en/collections/1695420-parents>

For a general query, please contact enquiries@brookfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

These email accounts are checked regularly by staff and your queries and questions will be answered. Even though we are working in unprecedented times, please be assured that as a school we will continue to do our very best to guide and support our students and families through their learning. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Mrs R Mason
Assistant Headteacher