



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I must start with a huge thank you for how hard you are all working and how well you have adapted to the new ways of learning. We recognise that access to the internet and devices is limited in some households and that enthusiasm might be waning at times; whatever you are managing is fabulous.

I am constantly reminded of the resilience of our students when I see and hear about the work they are completing and have had the privilege of calling several of them to recognise and celebrate their commitment and perseverance.

Having listened to parents, students and staff we are making some tweaks to the expectations and provision, surrounding home learning.

- Whilst the completion time of work set will remain the same, teachers will be planning for increased reading/processing and planning time.
- We recommend that keeping a routine for each day is helpful. To assist with this, a student's timetable is available in SMHW, which could be used to structure the day/week. This is in the dashboard area.

All work will remain signposted via SMHW, however work may be completed on a variety of platforms e.g Teams, Seneca, Sparx, Mathswatch, and YouTube. Did you know that RS have their own You Tube channel? [Link here](#)

- We are providing a guide to using Teams for parents and students. A useful video can be found [here](#) and also in the online services section of the parent's area of the website.
- A portal is being built and will become available soon on the school website for each year group, which will have a timetable of live lessons, specific online availability of teachers, tutor live sessions, assemblies and support videos all in one place to improve access and communication. I will email with a link once that is in place.
- We recognise the desire for live or pre-recorded lessons and where possible we will continue to provide as many of these as we can.

Our EDUCARE provision at Ashburton Primary School is still going strong, as we continue to support the families of our key workers to enable them to pursue their vital roles. We thank you all for your contribution to the COVID – 19 response.

Bridging work has been made available to support those Y11s who are remaining at SDCC and entering the Sixth Form in September. This is to ensure that they are ready and prepared for the challenges of the next stage of their education. There has been 100% uptake of this provision, which is testament to the dedication and determination of our outstanding Y11 students. We are also supporting Y11 students who wish to "keep their Maths and English skills" current; the uptake on this has also been exceptional. Meanwhile our sixth form teachers continue to provide our Y13 students with material that will best prepare them for the next stage of their educational journey. The College is also working hard moderating and ranking grades, ready for sharing with the exam boards, to enable our examination groups in Y11, Y12 and Y13 to receive their grades in August. Results days will be:

- A and As Level Thursday 13th August 2020
- GCSE Thursday 20th August 2020

We await the government's announcement about schools reopening and when that might be. What we can assure everyone is that it will only be once we are ready and sure that students and staff can be kept as safe as possible

As we approach VE day we want to wish you all well and to reinforce that you are the experts in your homes and know what is best for your children. Our job as educators is to ensure that no student is disadvantaged by COVID-19. We are applying considerable thought to what school will look like when we return and how we will ensure that students continue successfully on their educational journey.

Until we return, we continue to work with you, our community, to support all our young people. Please continue to feedback your thoughts, both positive as well as areas that could be improved, as they are welcomed in equal measure.

Stay safe.

Emma Dixon
Deputy Head Teacher