



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I trust this letter finds you safe and well. There have been many announcements over the last couple of days regarding the governments intentions for relaxing the lockdown and the plans to partially open up schools over the coming weeks and months. We are working to finalise what that will look like for South Dartmoor and we will share that with you as soon as we can. At the forefront of all our decision making is the continued safety of students and staff. We will not open until we are sure that we can provide a safe learning environment for the students and staff. What we do know is that Y7, Y8, Y9, Y11 and Y13 will not be returning to South Dartmoor this academic year, however they may be “some face to face teaching to supplement home learning” for Y10 and Y12.

In my previous letter I said that we were collating the current online/live lesson provision into one place so that parents and students could better plan their home learning schedule. I am delighted to say that this is now live on the school website, in the [Parents --> Online services section](#). Accompanying the year by year calendars are two videos in the [Microsoft Teams section](#), one by Microsoft and one by us on introducing and using teams. We hope that these are helpful to both parents and students with regards to accessing and using the teams facility.

Our EDUCARE facility remains open to family's where both parents are key workers, vulnerable students and those with an EHCP. We will be moving this back to the Library at South Dartmoor from 1st June 2020. This is due to the anticipated rise in numbers as more families are required to return to work or shift patterns change/increase. EDUCARE runs from 9am – 3pm. Currently there is no transport facility however we are working with Devon County Council to look at the possibility of providing transport to support families. Please contact munro@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk to enquire about a space should you require it. Please include the days that your require as this makes planning/staffing the provision much easier.

We are continuing to look at the expectations surrounding the home learning provision and the methods of delivery. More information on any adjustments for after half term will follow. There will be NO work set over half term and there is NO expectation that students should be completing school work during half term. Having said that we would always encourage students to continue to read for pleasure and investigate areas of interest throughout the holidays. We will be clearing any outstanding tasks over half term so students will start with a clean slate as they enter the last half of the summer term.

We appreciate all the time and effort that you are investing in learning at the moment. Whatever you are managing is an achievement in itself. Please continue to contact teachers if you need help, clarification or just a different person to talk to.

Stay safe and best wishes

Emma Dixon
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