

Dear Parent / Carer,

26<sup>th</sup> January 2021

I hope you and your family are well during these uncertain times, we are really missing having all of our learners in school and are looking forward to when we will all be back together again.

In the meanwhile we remain fully focused on our learners and trying to ensure they are provided with the best provision possible. We are constantly reviewing and tweaking our provision as appropriate. We have conducted both parent and learner voice surveys in the past week to review how remote learning is progressing so far, and I would just like to say a massive thank you for all of the positive feedback, messages to teachers and suggestions of how provision could be further developed.

### **Curriculum and assessment**

During this period of remote learning, learners are being taught the curriculum content that they would have been taught had this period of lock down not happened. This means that for Year 10 and Year 11 learners they are still covering the content from the exam board specifications as they would have done had they been in school.

Unfortunately we do not have any further information from the DfE yet on assessment of GCSEs for our current Year 11 learners. As we are in this period of remote learning and are waiting on further updates from the DfE regarding GCSE assessments, the Year 11 mock exams that were planned to start on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February will not go ahead on this date as planned. We will be in touch with Year 11 learners and parents as soon as we have any updated information.

### **Timetable**

As previously shared, wherever possible your child's timetable has remained very similar to their usual school timetable and with learners being taught by their usual teacher wherever possible. There are some times where two teachers might group two classes together into a lesson (where the teachers jointly plan and deliver the lesson), for example in English, maths and science at KS3. In these instances only classes of similar ability would be grouped together, as learners are taught in sets for KS3 English, maths and science. There are also occurrences on the timetable where at KS3 each tutor group would have been taught the same lesson at different times (for example art), so the timetable has been streamlined to allow one teacher to deliver to the whole year group in these circumstances.

Our teachers are supporting with the supervision of the learners who are still attending school, as well as teaching their learners remotely via Teams. Due to the COVID-19 situation, there may be times where we experience staff absence and in these situations several classes maybe taught by one teacher, or work may be set on Teams Assignments for learners.

### **Remote lesson delivery**

You will be familiar by now with most of our lessons being delivered as Teams Live Events, I just wanted to reassure you that there is still a lot of interaction with learners in these lessons. Learners can interact very easily with the teacher through the Q and A section of the lesson, where the teacher can gauge learners understanding, and then adapt the teaching responsively as needed. Throughout each lesson, teachers are monitoring which learners are responding and are demonstrating engagement in the lesson. Learners do not need to worry about putting questions or answers into the Q and A section of a live event lesson, as only the teacher is able to see this information. Where appropriate, some learning experiences are also being delivered as a Teams meeting.

## **Feedback**

Learners should be completing the majority of their learning in a book or on paper at home. Teachers will ask learners to submit certain pieces of work to allow feedback to be given to learners. This might be through an online learning platform (MathsWatch, Educake, Seneca, Active Learn etc), through Microsoft Forms, via Teams Assignments or via email. The class will then be given feedback in a subsequent lesson on the strengths of the work submitted and the areas that need improving. Please understand that it may not always be possible for teachers to email every learner back individually.

Your child's form tutor will be making contact with you this week to see how remote learning is going and if there is anything we can help with. If you have any questions, queries, or suggestions about home learning please do not hesitate to get in touch, you can use [homelearning@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk](mailto:homelearning@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk) to contact us. You can also find information on achievements and updates linked to school by following us on twitter @LHS\_HighSchool.

Kind regards,



**Miss Ayre**  
**Deputy Headteacher**