



ASTLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

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Dear Parent/Carer

I wish to clarify our expectations for students who will now be working from home until the government confirm we can return to school. Please find below some information specific to each year group.

In addition to this information, we would encourage every student, irrespective of their year group, to use this extended absence to develop their love of reading. At present we recommend 30 minutes minimum of private reading every day and this will make a difference to your child's wider comprehension skills in all subjects, not just English. Reading lists will be shared with students via their English teacher.

Year 9

All Year 9 pupils must continue to complete work that has been set by subject staff so that they continue to prepare well for GCSE study.

All Year 9 students have recently received an 'Extending Vocabulary Booklet' which they can work through over the coming weeks.

Year 10

It is critical that all Year 10 pupils complete the work that has been set by subject staff. They are now studying for their GCSE examinations, and it is crucial that they keep up to date with their curriculums.

Year 11

We know that GCSE examinations are not going to go ahead, and that a combination of measures from the school and exam boards will be used to calculate each student's final outcomes. However, we have less clarity around the BTEC and CamTech courses and how they intend to calculate student achievement. On this basis, all Year 11 students must continue to complete relevant coursework units until we have this information.

In addition to this, many Year 11 students will be joining our Sixth Form next year, and a small number will be joining other institutions. After the Easter break, transition work will be available for all our Sixth Form subjects on the school website. This will help students prepare for the step up to Level 3 study. The extended absence from school that we are currently experiencing provides an ideal opportunity to prepare for study in the Sixth Form. It will be an expectation that the transition work will be completed by each student in the subjects they intend to study in the Sixth Form.

Year 12

All teaching staff will be setting work for Year 12 students, and it is crucial that this work is completed for all A Level and BTEC/CamTech courses. We cannot underestimate how important it is that students keep continuing to study their courses.

Whilst there will be no formal examinations for Year 12 this year, we fully intend to continue with trial examinations in all A Level subjects, even though these might need to take place a little later than anticipated. Students should continue to prepare for these trial examinations.

Year 13

We know that A Level examinations are not going to go ahead, and that a combination of measures from the school and exam boards will be used to calculate each student's final outcomes. However, as with the GCSE's we have less clarity around the BTEC and CamTech courses and how they intend to calculate student outcomes for these courses. On this basis, all Year 13 students must continue to complete relevant coursework units until we have further information on this.

Whilst staff will not be setting work for Year 13 A Level students to complete, we do expect that students who are going on to university study will use their time to prepare for this higher level of education. We would advise, for example, that students continue to complete their A Level curriculums independently in subjects that they are going to study further. Whilst this work will not be marked, it will keep the mind sharp and actively engaged in the subjects you will continue to study.

Yours sincerely



John Barnes
Executive Headteacher