

18 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Thursday 19th March: College will remain closed for Years 7 and 8 and will be open for Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.** We will be able to have in College Year 7 & 8 children of essential service parents e.g. NHS, Education, Police, Transport etc. and children of any other parents who need to go to work.

As we planned and I wrote to you yesterday, on Wednesday 18th March, lessons were set for Year 7 & 8 students by Google Classroom but it was not 'real time' learning. Students could do the work at any point in the day.

#### The differences tomorrow

1. From **Thursday 19th March**, we will move to '**real time remote learning**' for all **Year 7 and 8** classes, for those **Year 9 - 13 classes where the teacher is absent and for all Year 9-13 classes still taught in College for the benefit of those students who may be absent.**
2. Lessons in years 9, 10 and 11 where the teacher is absent will not be covered in the timetabled classroom. They should go to their normal classroom where they will be directed to a study space.

#### What is Real Time Remote Learning?

Please see the [attached email](#), which was sent to all parents on the 17 March.

Please also see the [attached presentation](#), which was the assembly we gave all students on Tuesday 17 March.

#### Chromebooks

**Students in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 must remember their charged Chromebook/other device tomorrow.** Please can students also bring their Chromebook's charger with them if their device's battery life won't last the whole day. Students should also bring a pair of **headphones** so that they can listen to any video content shared by their teacher. This may include modelled examples or explanations.

#### Problems with getting work done

If there are genuine issues with your child's ability to work, the student should contact whoever is most appropriate:

- Their Pastoral Leader
- The Learning Plus department
- Or IT support

#### Remote Learning Support for SEND students

All ASC Facility and EHCP students will have a member of staff allocated to them each day. These colleagues will provide targeted support in addition to each student's class teacher.

The provision includes regular check-ins, a mechanism for responding to questions and for assisting them when they require further clarification and/or explanations. Please find below a letter that outlines further details:

[Letter to parents/carers from Learning Plus](#)

### Reading

We believe that reading is one of the very best ways of improving your son or daughter's education and life chances. This is a great opportunity for students to develop or re-ignite students' reading habits. The English department has been working hard to try to ensure that all students in Years 7-10 have a reading book to take home with them from the Reading Room, or, of course, they can read texts that are available at home or online. As a minimum, students should be spending the equivalent of their four 25-minute PDT slots each week reading. Their English teacher will be sharing with them a document to record what it is they are reading. We are also happy for students to be listening to audio texts in this time, if they would prefer to do this. We would recommend that students are reading fiction texts as far as possible. Mrs Stone has recently shared [information](#) again with parents and carers about the Google Read&Write App which supports students with their literacy needs and can be used for students reading any texts online during the course of their study. We will be celebrating with students their reading achievements when we return to College.

We will look at this evening's announcement about school closures and write to you again tomorrow.

I hope you are all keeping well and thank you as always for your tremendous support.

Hugh Hennebry  
Principal