

LeAF Studio

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Principal: Mrs N Lapskas



19 March 2020

Dear parents and carers

Following on from our previous letter regarding the school closure, I wanted to take the opportunity to write to you to discuss how you can support your child with their studies during these turbulent times.

With school now being closed indefinitely and all exams cancelled, the temptation for some students may be to forget about their studies until they return to school. As you may be aware, after every holiday there is a natural regression as students forget their previous learning and get out of the routine of studying. With this closure threatening to be significantly longer than most school holidays, it is essential that students continue to study at home to ensure that they are not disadvantaged when they return. In addition, having a regular routine will be good for their mental health and ensure that they have a clear focus whilst dealing with the difficulties of isolation within the home.

With this in mind, we have provided a wealth of work online via our two main platforms, Show My Homework and Microsoft Teams. Both of these platforms have excellent apps that can be downloaded, allowing students to access the work on their phones or computers.

Show My Homework – this is the main platform used by subjects. All students have an individual log in but if they cannot remember it, students or parents can contact me at tclark@leaf.bournemouth.sch.uk for a PIN to reset their account. Parent accounts are also available to monitor what is being set and completed.

Microsoft Teams – this is a new platform which some subjects are utilising that enables larger files to be uploaded. For this, students can use their normal school log in details to access their area and then they will get notifications when assignments are set or due in.

At the moment, there is more than enough work for each subject to last up until the Easter holidays. Following Easter, more work will be uploaded for each subject on a week by week basis until we are allowed to open again.

In terms of how to support your child with this, the best way to help them would be to sit down together and plan a weekly timetable to ensure some kind of continuity with their routine. Please see below for an example of such a timetable that you could use as a starting point when discussing this with your child.

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Day			Break			Lunch		
Monday								
Tuesday								
Wednesday								
Thursday								
Friday								

Once this is planned, allocate each subject to a session, with Maths, English and Science having at least twice as many sessions as the other subjects. You will also need to build in regular breaks as well as exercise and other relaxation time, including reading for pleasure. The key is to ensure a wide range of activities followed in a regular routine.

In terms of support with this work, there are a plethora of resources online which can help both you and your child complete these tasks. In addition, members of staff will still be working from home during this time so please do email them if you have any urgent questions. Please be aware that due to their own childcare issues they may not be able to reply as quickly as if they were at work.

Thank you for your support in this difficult time – it has been an unprecedented period of disruption but we have worked hard to get in a position where we can support students to study from home. Once we are able to re-open, we will be holding a special rewards afternoon for those students who have completed the majority of work set online by their teachers. As always, we will endeavour to keep you informed via email and our social media channels as and when circumstances change.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Clark
Vice Principal