



Nether Stowe School

Headteacher: Mr G Langston-Jones
St Chad's Road
Lichfield, Staffordshire
WS13 7NB
Tel: 01543 263446 & 263487

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Remote Learning

Dear parent or carer,

I hope you and your family are well. You will be aware of a number of changes we have made to our remote provision and I would like to thank those parents and carers who have contacted us to share their positive feedback for the work and support provided.

We are working closely with our partnership schools to identify, share and develop the best practice and I wanted to take the opportunity to share more detail about our remote provision and how we are supporting students. The information below can also be found in the recent Department for Education publication which can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

- We are using short presentations and careful modelling of content followed by tailored tasks; questions to check understanding; or retrieval practice. Research has shown this is highly effective in helping students maintain concentration. Importantly, the presentations are always available for future reference to support knowledge recall and understanding.
- In the context of remote learning, it is important to carefully balance the delivery of new content. Our remote learning provision of audio presentations that can be played at a different time if a student is experiencing cognitive overload or struggling with concentration is proven to provide a high level of support for students when working from home.
- The feedback from the previous lockdown and related closure of schools was that pupils often felt overwhelmed by workload and inflexibility, which made learning at home a greater challenge. We have designed our provision so that pupils are able to easily take a break and positively manage their workload appropriately during the day.
- The vast majority of our students are accessing their remote learning and actively acting upon feedback. We monitor student engagement daily and our pastoral staff offer intervention and support when engagement is low. Should you need extra support, please contact our pastoral team via your tutor, College Head or Pastoral Lead if you require further support.
- Please remember that our teaching staff are also supervising in-school provision for pupils on certain days of the week and, therefore, may not always be available to immediately respond to email contact.

Whilst there is a common misconception that live lessons are the 'gold standard' of remote education, we are acutely aware that our students are missing interaction with their peers and teachers, and we want to support this as much as possible.

We are excited to be incorporating live tutor experiences into our remote provision as well as seminar workshop sessions with subject teachers and these are proving very popular. The research shows that

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these kinds of experiences are incredibly effective in supporting the learning of pupils when combined with the approaches outlined above. Please encourage your son or daughter to take part as much as possible.

If you are experiencing significant barriers to engaging with work due to a lack of access to appropriate technology, please contact Senior Assistant Headteacher, Miss Sullivan, at dsullivan@netherstowe.com to discuss the support we may be able to provide.

We want to make sure that all pupils can access their resources and continue learning. If you experience any problems accessing the resources, please contact: ITAdvice@atlp.org.uk. When emailing, please remember to state the school name, full pupil name as well as the nature of the problem.

Assessment

Over the next two weeks students will be completing assessments in all of their subjects. The assessments will be reviewed by the class teacher and used to identify which aspect of the learning covered over the half term have been successfully retained as well as to identify any gaps in knowledge or understanding. This information will be then used, as per our school policy, to help the teacher plan an upgrade lesson where the teacher can share with the class what has gone well and provide additional support to address any identified areas for improvement.

Please encourage your child to make their best attempt at these assessments by reviewing the topics covered over this half term. Remind them that the knowledge organiser has sheets for each topic they have been studying and all of the lessons covered this half term are available on Stella. Extra copies of the knowledge organiser sheets can also be found on Stella [here](#). Assessment arrangements for Sixth Form pupils will be communicated via Teams

February Staff Training and Half Term

Finally, a quick reminder that February 12th is allocated as a staff training day and school will be closed to all pupils. School will also be closed week beginning Monday 15th February for the half-term and remote learning will resume on Monday 22nd February.

Thank you for your continuing support. Please take care and stay safe.

Your faithfully,

Mr G Langston-Jones
Headteacher

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