

Remote learning and new homework letter

Dear parent/carer,

It was great to have all of our students back last week. We continue to be impressed with their fantastic attitude to learning.

As you will be aware, the number of cases of coronavirus has begun to rise again across the country. Therefore, I am writing to explain what it means for schools if there is a local lockdown and how we will respond.

The DfE has identified four tiers of action:

Tier 1

Schools will remain open to all pupils. Some students may be self isolating.

Tier 2

Secondary schools will move to a rota model, combining "on-site provision with remote education". Secondary schools will continue to allow full-time attendance for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers, with all other pupils subject to a rota.

Tier 3

Secondary schools will allow full-time on-site provision only to vulnerable pupils, the children of critical workers and selected year groups which will be identified by the DfE. All other pupils will stay at home and be provided with remote education.

Tier 4

All mainstream schools will only allow full-time attendance to vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers, with all other pupils staying home and receiving remote education.

During lockdown we felt that our approach to learning was successful. However, we think that we can make this even better, based on the feedback we have received.

When we taught using Google Meets the students benefited from having a teacher present, teaching the content. However, this lesson was only accessible live and some students had issues that meant that they couldn't be present. The teacher input was useful for that one time and was lost once the meet was over. Therefore, our teachers are currently creating videos of them explaining the key concepts covered in lessons. If there are already good videos on the internet the teacher is collating them. We will be using these videos for remote learning and our new homework approach. Using videos will allow students to access the lesson when it is convenient for them and will also allow them to pause and rewind, if they are struggling to understand something.

Our tier 1 approach

Most students will be in school but some may need to self isolate. For those students who are self isolating but well enough to work, we are providing work on Google classroom. For Years 7 and 8 they have a designated year group classroom. They need to follow these steps:

- Go to the Google classroom named Class 2020- Year 7 or Class 2020-Year 8
- Go to the classwork folder in that Google classroom
- Students should follow their usual timetable, therefore, open the relevant subject folder where the learning resources are located
- Open the ebooklet and find out where they are up to (this is the same as the booklet being used in school to ensure that students are doing the same work as other students)
- Open the presentation list, this is in the same folder, and locate the presentation to go with the lesson that they will be working through
- Watch the video for the lesson (sometimes this is in the ebooklet)
- Read through the lesson text and instructions
- Complete the tasks
- The teacher will give feedback on the work

For Years 9-10, the process is the same but instead of a year group Google classroom students will go to their individual subject classrooms. However, the process is the same after that. The following video demonstrates the process:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5iuslvYNRM&feature=youtu.be

Our tier 2 approach

This will mean that the school is operating a two week rota system. This is likely to be Years 8,9 and 11 together for two weeks, followed by Years 7 and 10 for the next two weeks. For students at home they will follow the process outlined in the Tier 1 approach. However, our teachers will also be on a Google meet at the same time so that students can ask for help and get immediate feedback.

Our Tier 3 and 4 approach

All students will be at home. Therefore, we will follow the Tier 2 approach for all students.

Our new homework approach

We have introduced a new approach to homework, which has been shared with students. We have changed the homework to:

- develop the ability of your child to remember what has been taught in their lessons
- develop the use of knowledge organisers to ensure that your child learns the key knowledge
- allow your child to practise applying their knowledge and checking their understanding.

Years 7 and 8

WEEK A	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	MATHS	HISTORY	SCIENCE	MFL	REVIEW
WEEK B	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	ENGLISH	GEOGRAPHY	RE	PE	REVIEW

Years 7 and 8

Students need to go to the homework Google classroom that has been set up for the whole year group. There are four parts for students to complete:

- 1. Complete the braindump for the day. This allows students to review what they have learned in each lesson that day.
- 2. Watch the presentation for the subject that night and complete the quiz. The target is to get 100%.
- 3. Complete the stretch task (this is optional)
- 4. Find the relevant subject knowledge organiser and do look, cover, write, check. Students need to complete one page in their homebooks. This should be a mix of black and green pen. Advisors will be checking this has been done each morning.

This video explains the process:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzcKZTooKMY&feature=youtu.be

Years 9 and 10

WEEK A	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	MATHS	OPTION A	SCIENCE	OPTION B	REVIEW
WEEK B	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	ENGLISH	OPTION C	Y9: OPTION H Y10: OPTION D	RE	REVIEW

Years 9 and 10

Students need to go to the Google classroom for the relevant subject and go to the classwork section followed by the homework sections. There are three parts for students to complete:

- 1. Watch the presentation for the subject that night and complete the quiz. The target is to get 100%.
- 2. Complete the stretch task (this is optional)
- 3. Find the relevant subject knowledge organiser and do look, cover, write, check. Students need to complete one page in their homebooks. This should be a mix of black and green pen. Advisors will be checking this has been done each morning.

As students are now doing their GCSEs, there may be extra tasks to do as well.

explains process: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QF8dQnUP4SQ&feature=youtu.be

Year 11

As year 11 are in the final year of their studies, the homework approach is different. Their homework will be in their Google classroom for their subjects. They may be required to do homework from more than one subject each night. The homework will be set to give your child the chance of achieving the best grades possible next summer.

Once again, I want to thank you all for the continuing support. It really is making a big difference to what we are achieving and will continue to achieve as a team.

Take care,

Mr S Clough Headteacher

TANFIELD SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER Steven Clough BSc (Hons) NPQH

Tanfield Lea Road, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 8AY

enquiries@tanfieldschool.co.uk

01207 232 881

@TanfieldSchool