

26.1.2021

Dear parent/guardian,

Thank you very much to all of you who completed our recent Distance Learning questionnaire. We have received over 1,000 responses through the parent, pupil and staff questionnaires which means that we are in a very strong position to analyse our current Distance Learning provision and to make some changes.

We are very pleased to hear about the successes in regards to remote learning and to also appreciate your comments and ideas on ways to adapt our existing provision. We will do our best to respond to individual requests that arise in the questionnaire, but there are 3 main themes which came to the fore from the responses:

1. A request to reduce screen time e.g. by reducing the number of live lessons, reducing the 'live' element of lessons or by setting more tasks that can be completed on paper.
2. Teachers to allow more time during lessons to complete tasks and to catch up with the work.
3. A weekly well-being session for everyone - a chance to catch up with tasks, take a break from the screen, relax and to focus on personal wellbeing.

As we prepare for another month of Distance Learning and in response to these key themes across the 3 questionnaires, we will make the following changes to our provision from now until at least half-term:

- **Friday Wellbeing: Every Friday afternoon from 12.30pm** onwards will be time for staff and pupils to **focus on their personal wellbeing**. No live lessons or work will be set on Teams. We encourage our pupils to take the opportunity to relax after a week's work by going for a walk, watching a movie, playing a game and having a break from the screen.
- We will **reduce the percentage of 'live' lessons** to ensure that our pupils have enough time to complete tasks and to catch up with the work set. We recommend that **no more than 75%** of all subject lessons are 'live' so that the remaining 25% is spent catching up with any work, reducing stress on our pupils and also lowering screen time.
- **Yr.7-11:** We will **not set homework** in addition to the work that is to be completed during lessons. You may still receive messages on Show My Homework to let you know about work that needs to be completed during lessons, but this will not be extra work for the pupils.

We very much hope that these steps will help to alleviate the stress that we all face during these challenging times. We will continue to monitor our Distance Learning provision and we very much look forward to being able to teach our pupils face-to-face when it is safe to do so.

Thank you for your continued support,

Simon Davies



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