

18 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:**

**At home learning arrangements for those unable to be in school**

As I mentioned in my letter to you yesterday, I am writing to explain the arrangements for students to learn from home, either because they have moved into a period of self-isolation or as a contingency in case the school is required to close.

I appreciate that this is an unsettling time, particularly for students who expect to sit external exams this summer. As things stand, schools are awaiting specific guidance relating to the developing Coronavirus situation from the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ), the body responsible for overseeing all exam boards. When we do get updated guidance, I will of course communicate this to students and parents. In the meantime, our focus is on continuing to prepare students for sitting their examinations in May and June, and for all other students to be able to continue their learning.

**Key points regarding online learning arrangements:**

- **It is our strong preference that as far as is possible parents/carers establish a daily routine at home by dedicating similar hours of learning activity as would take place at school. We do realise that this may have to be flexible if families are sharing devices, but ensuring good structure to each day at home will give your son or daughter the best prospect of continuing to make good progress with their learning.**
- The online learning resources can be accessed through the QE website via this [link](#). Please note that these are in the process of being updated and most resources will be ready by the end of today. They will be based on a number of learning platforms, including GCSE Pod, Seneca, Moodle, One Drive and Microsoft Teams. Different subjects and year groups will use particular platforms for various elements of learning. Curriculum Leaders have ensured that learning activities across all the platforms are joined up and meet the curriculum need.
- We are using the digital learning platforms and resources that the students are most familiar with. We introduced GCSE Pod in assemblies several weeks ago and a large quantity of students have registered and engaged with it. Seneca has also been popular for several years. Moodle is our main portal or repository of the online learning for the majority of subjects. We will ensure that students have an opportunity to check their Moodle log-in at school before the end of the week. Some sixth form subjects are also using One Drive or Teams to communicate and deliver learning. These arrangements are made clear on the website in relation to each subject.
- Subjects have structured online tasks and activities 'by week' so that students are not overwhelmed by the quantity of work to complete. We have tried to replicate the structure of the curriculum/sequencing of the curriculum in school. If an absence or school closure extends for a more significant period of time, staff will continue to upload material and update the website.

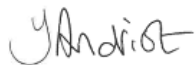
- Staff email contacts have been provided in the guidance where departments feel this is necessary for correspondence/additional support.
- Each department/subject has considered ways in which students can submit work and receive feedback related to their activity. In some cases this is generated in a bespoke manner through the platform; for instance, GCSE Pod offers 'check and challenge' assessment for some of the subjects and students can use this to tailor their subsequent learning. In other cases, students are asked to submit work either through Moodle or via email (depending on the year group and subject).
- Where possible, teachers will have provided hard copies of revision booklets/learning materials/exemplar exam papers etc. in advance of any absence. We will continue to do this during the remainder of this week.

If you have any concerns about accessing the online learning resources or supporting your son or daughter to continue their learning at home, please contact school on [admin@qehs.net](mailto:admin@qehs.net).

### **Personal update**

Please note, as of today, I myself am now having to self-isolate for 14 days as a result of my daughter developing a persistent cough. I am in regular communication with Mr Atkins, the senior team and other staff and you can be assured that appropriate provision in school continues.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Mr J Andriot  
Head of School