



15 January 2021

Dear parent / carer

Many thanks for your support over the past two weeks with home learning. It has been lovely to see pupils so engaged with the learning set and it has been pleasing to see that the work submitted has been in line with the Academy's high standards. We understand that it can be quite challenging for parents and carers to support their children with learning at home, especially when many of you are also trying to work from home, so we really do appreciate everything you are doing.

After two weeks of home learning, we have managed to review our provision and have made some small changes to the weekly timetable. These include slightly extending the time allocation to some subjects; splitting the 'Options Time' into creative, active and language; and adding an additional break. When making these decisions, we are trying to make sure that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided as much as possible, and that pupils engage with their learning, which is a different challenge to when they are at school and we are trying to get the balance right.

Where some lessons have been extended in length, this is to ensure that there is sufficient time available to deliver the full intended learning for the lesson, and pupils have adequate time for independent practice in the subject.

Options Time has been split into the categories of 'creative', 'active' and 'language' to ensure that pupils still access a broad and balanced curriculum when they are learning remotely, which is important not only for their academic progress but also health and well-being.

Additional breaks have been introduced to ensure that pupils have regular pauses in their screen time usage, as we feel that this will ensure the time spent on a device is more productive.

By the end of this week, some live lessons will have been trialled in some maths lessons. As we move into next week, each class teacher will start to provide some live lessons for their class. We have provided guidance for parents and carers on TEAMS and our Home Learning Non-Negotiables guidance (attached). We would appreciate it if you could take the time to read through these documents so that you can support your child with all aspects of their home learning.

We will continue to review our home learning on a regular basis, and we will be asking parents and pupils to respond to a survey in the next couple of weeks as your feedback is really important to us. All our teachers and support staff are in school teaching their classes as normal whilst also providing home learning so they are working really hard and are trying to do their very best for your children. I would like to pass on their thanks for your continued support.

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As always, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you need support with anything.

Yours sincerely

Annie McNally  
Principal