

18 January 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Since the start of term, it has been extremely pleasing to see so many of our students accessing and engaging with their remote learning via our online platforms. In particular, through the investment in and development of our use of technology to support the provision, it has been wonderful to see and interact with our students through their 'live' lessons via their Google Meets as they have a 'live' interface with their teachers in real-time. As teachers are able to provide more direct support and feedback through the Meets and through the Google Classrooms within each lesson, students are able to continue learning and make progress, despite the challenges posed by learning and working from home. We are very proud of the way our students have conducted themselves on the Meets and commend our students for the effort, resilience and quality of the work that they are submitting on a regular basis. The overwhelming majority of students are doing a fantastic job with learning from home.

In light of the Prime Minister's announcement that the home learning provision will continue for all students until at least the 15th February, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some developments to our home learning expectations which we feel will further support students' learning and allow us to continue to make improvements to ensure the best possible provision for your child's learning and progress.

Home learning key developments – implementation from Tuesday 19th January 2021

- a) Students will continue to follow their normal school timetable with four lessons a day and a 'live' tutor time Meet. As we understand that we all face unique contexts at this time, we have reduced the 75-minute lesson to 60 minutes. We are expecting as a minimum around 10 minutes of teacher live delivery via Google Meets per lesson and around 45 minutes of activity, giving students and staff a comfort and wellbeing break from the screen each lesson. The formal lesson timings are as follows:

Period 1	9.00 - 10.00
Period 2	10.20 - 11.20
Tutor Time	11.30 – 11.50
Period 3	12.40 – 13.40
Period 4	14.00 – 15.00
Optional Further Study Time	15.00 – 16.00

- b) If students have worked productively and in a focused way across the lesson but have not fully completed all of the learning tasks set, students should submit the work that they have completed in the lesson. Students will not be penalised for not finishing all of the tasks if they have made a good effort to complete as much as they can. Students should move onto the next lesson and Meet, rather than continuing their previous lesson's work.
- c) Work will be set on Show My Homework with a submission date that is the same day that the lesson takes place. This is to ensure further clarity around what students should be doing in which lesson on each day. Ideally, students will submit their work for the lesson within their timetabled lesson time. If a student is unable to submit the work on that day due to an individual circumstance, students should continue to submit work for the lesson even if the submission deadline has passed. All work should be submitted by the end of the school week.
- d) Wherever possible, students will be directed to use a Google doc within their Google Classroom in their lesson time, so that teachers can provide feedback, monitor progress and productivity, and address misconceptions in real time whilst students are working on their tasks. Where a Google doc is not available, this can be achieved through the chat function of the Google Meet. In all cases, the teacher will be available to respond to student questions and to provide support during the timetabled lesson.

- e) All submitted work on the day the lesson has been timetabled, will be reviewed and acknowledged by the teacher, with the exception of work such as Show My Homework quizzes and spelling tests that receive instant scores. This may be during the lesson as outlined in the point above. We will continue to follow our assessment and feedback strategy that adopts a regular whole class feedback approach and a STAR assessment for more detailed, individual feedback that will be adapted to suit the platform used.
- f) For late submissions (submitted after the day of the lesson), the teacher will update their online mark-book's submission status and will update the grade/mark if applicable. Where work is submitted late, it may not be possible for the teacher to provide feedback.
- g) To support the various contexts for our families, the teacher will share guidance on completion of the work to support any students working outside of the normal lesson time. This may be through sharing the recorded Google Meet via the Google Classroom or through audio/video recordings or other clear and appropriate instruction. As you are aware, our Google Meets are currently recorded for safeguarding purposes, so if the Google Meet recording is used in this way to support students unable to attend, it is critical that the students do not save, record, screenshot, share or post anything from the Meet or from Google Classroom.
- h) Registers will be taken in the Google Meets to monitor student engagement in their home learning. Each child should join the Meet with their microphone off and, for safeguarding purposes, with their camera on but they can switch off their camera once the register has been taken. This is a slight change to our previous approach.

Thank you to all parents who have shared feedback with the school over the last 2 weeks. Your comments – both positive and developmental – have helped to shape the revisions to our provision. There will be a further opportunity to share your feedback through a parent survey link that will be available in the week commencing the 25th January. More details will be shared at that time.

A copy of our revised home learning protocols will be available on the website for further, more detailed information for your reference as well as the central list of classroom codes so that students can access the details needed to join their Google Classroom subject classes more easily.

We are clear that the best possible remote provision is where students attend the 'live' lesson and follow the school day structure. Where there is a barrier to students achieving this, please do get in touch and we will try our best to support you.

Homework

As you are aware, during this period of home learning it is not expected that homework will be set. However, teachers may wish to set optional follow-up work to the lesson, particularly for exam classes, which could take the form of a quiz to assess students' understanding and recall of knowledge learnt, a revision task or a specific piece of research or reading linked to future learning. For this purpose, we are allocating 15.00-16.00 as optional further study time for students.

On the Show My Homework platform, please be aware that lessons and resources will be set as a 'homework assignment' as this is the terminology used by the platform. However, to clarify, the 'homework' set across this period of the national school closures for most students on this platform, refers to the home learning that is set.

Further optional resources are listed below that students may find helpful. Please also monitor our social media platforms for additional resources and links.

Curriculum-based

For further enhancement of the curriculum, students may wish to access the BBC Daily lessons and Oak Academy resources to support their learning beyond their timetabled lessons and in their own optional further study time. These links will be shared with parents.

- BBC Daily lessons: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>
- Oak Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Reading at Home

- Access the BBC Bitesize Secondary Big Read lessons to support with your child's reading at home: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zr6w7nb>
- Access the Oak Academy virtual library in partnership with The National Literacy Trust: <https://library.thenational.academy/> Every week a popular children's author/illustrator will provide you with free books, exclusive videos and their top three recommended reads.
- Free audiobooks are available from: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>
- Listen to David Walliams' audio-elevenes, where he reads a chapter from his book each day: <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>
- Visit the Google Classroom library for each year group for more reading activities: the class codes will be re-published as a notice on Show My Homework.
- Look out on our social media platforms for our library newsletter, Word of the Week, Book of the Week, and other ideas to support reading at home.

Health, Fitness and Wellbeing

In addition to the timetabled PE lessons, students may wish to take part in other daily fitness activities, such as the following links/videos, that are suggestions:

- Joe Wicks' fitness workouts: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>
- Yoga with Adriene: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Td6zFtZPk4>
- Mr Irons' fitness workouts: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWCoUPftJNC3ch2O2_xVKw

Use of Show My Homework

The video links below may prove beneficial in supporting with the use of the platform:

Parent's guide to Show My Homework: <https://teamsatchel.wistia.com/medias/1x7nmlskh>

Student's guide to Show My Homework: <https://teamsatchel.wistia.com/medias/dh00d23bjv>

Student video: How to log into and hand work in through Google Classroom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-O4q8rEay8&feature=youtu.be>

Commendations

We are re-introducing our Head of School commendations to reward students for their sustained, excellent commitment to home learning in a subject area or for an outstanding piece of home learning. These will also be supplemented with House rewards. We look forward to sharing as many as possible over the coming weeks.

Contact details

If you would like any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us via the details below:

Staff member	Area
Mrs M Lock melissa.lock@hayleacademy.net	Home learning: curriculum, teaching & learning; Show My Homework; Google Classroom & Google Meet
Miss L Mckenzie lizi.mckenzie@hayleacademy.net or Mrs K Jones kate.jones@hayleacademy.net	Hegarty Maths - Maths
Mrs E Parker emma.parker@hayleacademy.net	Pastoral support; Show My Homework; Google Classroom & Google Meet
Mr C Wyatt clive.wyatt@hayleacademy.net	Year 7 & Year 8 pastoral support, including Show My Homework
Mrs S Truscott sally.truscott@hayleacademy.net	Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
Admin team enquiries@hayleacademy.net	General enquiries

IT Support itsupport@tpacademytrust.org	Student school email log-on enquiries; Google Classroom log-on enquiries
Mrs C Beare caroline.beare@hayleacademy.net	Student school email address enquiries

Thank you for your continued support and partnership; it is very much appreciated as we continue to work together to support our children in their education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M. Lock

Deputy Headteacher

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