

How will Truro School help you learn if you are isolating at home?

If you are too unwell for school, you should be at home recovering, and only studying as much as you can without slowing down your recovery. Work can be caught up when you are well and back in school. This advice has always been true and remains true now. Teachers are used to sending work to absent pupils and to helping them catch up when they return.

Last year, the school was in full lockdown for an extended period of time, and all learning and teaching for all pupils was remote, even when pupils felt well. We hope that full lockdown is not re-imposed by the government, but if it is, the school is confident of repeating that support for you (including having reviewed and improved aspects of it since the summer).

This document has been made for a new type of absence that may happen for you this year. It is possible that at some point you may be required to self-isolate at home for several days, or weeks, without actually feeling very ill, and whilst other classmates are still attending school. This would happen, for example, if you have been asked to 'self-isolate' whilst you await a Covid test, or as a precaution because you live with somebody who has symptoms, or as a result of any wider advice from the NHS or the government's track and trace system.

In that situation, Truro School wants to support you to maintain your normal school routines and stay on top of your learning as far as possible. Before our approach to this situation, that we call 'hybrid' learning (because it is a mixture of in school and remote learning) is set out below, these are the key points made thus far:

- If you are ill, for whatever reason, stay at home and prioritise recovery over and above work. Only complete work you feel able to, and know that you will be supported to catch up when you are better.
- If you are self-isolating as a result of advice from the NHS, but feeling well, the school will activate an enhanced remote learning programme for you, in line with the information in this document. This will mostly be delivered through Everest and Teams.

Q & A to help you understand how Truro School will support you remotely this year:

1. What does Truro School's enhanced remote learning programme look like?

Your teachers will run their lessons on Teams whilst teaching your classmates at school so you can access these lessons 'live.' Different teachers and different lessons will have more or less interactivity (via dialogue, and/or chat, and/or video clips), depending on what makes best sense to support both you at home and the group on site. You should, then, keep following your normal school timetable from home, being ready to look for resources in Teams and following the guidance of teachers about when to log in to lessons for interaction. Please don't expect full interactivity for all of every lesson. It is better for both you and your teacher to have periods of time when you are working on tasks on your own, and they are engaging with those in front of them. The balance they will strike will seek to ensure progress for everybody.

2. When can and can't I access this support?

This support does not begin the moment you are absent, and applies to Covid-related absence, or other absences of over a week. For the first day, catch up on work from friends or via the normal posts on Teams, Everest or from teachers, just as you would have done before Covid-19. Enhanced provision will be enacted once you have been advised by the NHS to extend your isolation at home to await a test, if you are a boarder unable to return to Truro, or as otherwise enforced by the NHS. As soon as you are in this situation, make sure your

parents let us know. Once that contact has been received, your tutor or other staff will be in touch with you as soon as possible, and certainly by the end of the second school day after this contact, to outline what will happen next. Once up and running, the enhanced support will continue until you are ready to return to school in person.

3. How do I give feedback over how well the support is working for me?

Your feedback on strategies you are finding most or least helpful is important. By all means let your teachers know directly, but for any absence that is prolonged for over a week, your Tutor or Head of Year will be in touch to review how it is going with you. If you are on our SEND register, the SENDCO will also be in touch to ensure we are doing all we reasonably can to remove any barriers to effective remote study.

4. What about Games and the Co-Curriculum?

PE/Games teams will assign activities for PE/Games lesson times as well as a full extra-curricular offering. Music, Drama, Leiths Cookery, Outdoor Pursuits and a range of clubs and challenges will be available via the Moodle platform.

5. What about pastoral care and wellbeing?

Regular form time sessions will be available via Teams. Members of the Safeguarding Team (pastoralcare@truroschool.com) are always available for support. Teachers will continue to use commendations for pupils learning from home. The School Counsellor and School Chaplain (ADG@truroschool.com) will also continue to offer counselling sessions to those who need support.

6. What if I don't have reliable access to wifi or a computer at home?

Please tell your tutor when they get in touch to discuss your remote learning programme. If the school can help, we will, and certainly teachers will be informed so that they can supply work and feedback to you in the most accessible way possible for you at home.

7. What if I am not confident about using the remote learning platforms the school uses to support my study from home?

The school is going to plan and use some time between now and half term to refresh and practise remote learning whilst still in school. This will help you and your teachers gain confidence for any point later on when you or they need to learn or teach from home.

8. When can I return to normal school, on site?

This depends on your health and the advice from the NHS. If you have been tested for Covid and the result is negative, you can return immediately if you feel well. If you have had Covid, you must only return after when you feel better, and/or when your GP advises that it is safe for you and others for you to be back in school.

Final Thoughts:

It is clear from last year that Truro School pupils can and do learn very effectively from home when motivated and engaged with the support on offer. It is quite likely that you will spend some time at some point this year learning in this way. Try not to worry about this, but do plan ahead. If there is anything you and your parents can do now to have equipment or a work station at home that makes it easier to move to remote study, it is worth doing.