

A Parent's guide to Lockdown Learning at Truro School: Spring 2021

Our remote learning model seeks to ensure that all pupils can continue to make very good progress. Remote learning will vary in its details across age groups and subjects but will always be driven by the ambition to establish effective and sustainable learning and teaching approaches for all.

Our pupils continue to follow their familiar current two-week timetable structure, starting each day with a tutorial/assembly/registration as appropriate, and ending after their last scheduled lesson or activity. Our teachers will plan each teaching episode with careful consideration given to the different ways in which learning outcomes can be met by pupils as remote learners.

Our pupils are familiar with Teams and this platform will be used for all interactive teaching. All resources related to an interactive learning and teaching session will be uploaded into Teams. Where a department also uses Moodle, your child may be signposted to resources and activities here. Your child's teacher will provide instructions for each lesson, detailing where to find the relevant resources and tasks.

Teams live lessons for the upcoming week will be scheduled by no later than 4pm on Sunday. This will support your family to plan forward for the upcoming week's live lessons. Sometimes it will be necessary for a teacher to make a change to a scheduled session. When this happens, pupils will be informed in a preceding lesson or via a Teams post of the relevant details. Our Heads of Year and tutors will work with families who may not readily have access to suitable devices or signal at home. In this case, the best alternative provision possible will be enabled.

Homework will be set on Everest for all pupils in KS4 and KS5 to support pupils to continue to make very good progress in their examination courses. In the current climate, teachers will set homework which takes in to account the challenges of remote learning and balances on screen and off screen learning. Teams will be the platform for the submission of and feedback on pupil work. The exception to this is where other established learning platforms are used within a department such as Moodle. In order to limit screen time, routine homework will not be set for KS3 students. The exception to this is where KS3 students have started a GCSE course and homework is an essential part of the content delivery. Although pupils in 1st - 3rd Year will not have homework set, teachers will be recommending voluntary enrichment or extension activities for students to engage with as they wish, and we encourage that curiosity.

Our teachers will plan for the most efficient and effective use of learning time, devising differentiated and personalised learning opportunities which engage pupils and promote good progress. We value the educational benefits of real time pupil/teacher interactivity including real time questions and feedback, and most lessons will involve live interaction. A familiar lesson routine for a live lesson is detailed below:

A teacher led introduction might set out expected outcomes, key context, and instruction over tasks, followed by a phase of focused pupil individual study with teacher support via chat, leading to an interactive plenary where pupil (mis)understanding and progress can be checked.

This model represents good practice but there will be times when teachers divert from this because there are sound pedagogical reasons to do so. In some lessons across the two-week timetable, pupils may be set independent learning to complete in preparation for future interactive lessons. We have a responsibility to balance on screen interactive learning time with off screen independent work and

consolidation, where equally valuable thinking and development takes place. This mirrors the pedagogical approach in our classrooms and is essential for pupil wellbeing as well as academic progress. Where necessary, a teacher and/or tutor will allocate a pupil their own individual channel within their class team to provide one to one guidance and support.

Teachers will have their camera on to meet, greet and register pupils as they arrive to the live lesson. Teachers will encourage their pupils to switch their camera on to register. For the remainder of the live lesson, the teacher will use their professional judgement as to whether it is beneficial for cameras to remain on or be switched off. If a teacher is sharing their screen, it is not possible for the pupils to see the teacher or for the teacher to see the pupils. If the use of cameras is a cause for concern or unease for you or your child, please speak to your child's form tutor or Head of Year.

During 100-minute lessons, teachers will encourage pupils to take a short break away from their screens to support their wellbeing. The timing of this break will be at the teacher's discretion and pupils are expected to use their break responsibly. Pupils working on site will also be given the opportunity to take a break and will be reminded not to disturb others who may still be working.

Teachers will continue to track and record academic progress, and give feedback on activities set, for example using Teams assignment or other established learning platforms, consistent with existing school policy. Teachers and Heads of Department will review this data regularly and plan for intervention, as necessary.

When teachers are part of the key worker supervision rota, it may be necessary for their classes to be set a greater proportion of independent work to accommodate duties in school. Where this is the case, teachers will communicate this to pupils in advance. In most circumstances, teachers will still be available on Teams chat to respond to pupil questions.

Teachers will continue to adhere to the school reporting and assessment cycle. Progress grades and school reports will be completed as normal. During periods of remote learning this will involve the use of some remote assessment. As per the school assessment policy, there is a wide range of work that can be used to derive progress grades. This may include standardised assignments, project work, homework where appropriate, and online tests.

The Co-Curriculum

A broad range of Co-curricular options will be available via the Moodle platform for all pupils. Please do see the separate Lockdown Co-Curriculum guide shared within this web-page.

Wednesday Afternoon Activities will continue this term and remain compulsory for all pupils. Pupils should join their group via their calendar link in Teams, where staff will outline the programme for each activity.

PE and Games staff will assign activities for PE/Games lesson times as well as a full extra-curricular offering. Pupils should continue to join their Teams as per their timetable. All the activities will be made accessible to all pupils, with variations made clear.

All pupils will be encouraged to contribute points to their competition house by taking part in the Lockdown House Competitions. These will run weekly covering a range of interests.

Attendance

All tutors will register their tutor group at 8.45 each day and all pupils should join their tutor group Team. If your child is unable to attend registration, please email their tutor.

If your child is ill or unable to join remote learning for the day, please email absence@truroschoo.com as normal, and copy in their tutor, giving details of the nature of the absence.

You will be able to see your child's attendance record on Everest. We are following the DfE codes for lockdown and all those learning remotely will be recorded as an **X**. Subject teachers will record attendance in lessons with those learning remotely being coded **X** if present, those in school as **/** and those missing the lesson as **N**.

Tutors and Heads of Year will follow up with pupils and parents if there are unexplained absences and will involve the Safeguarding Team as required.

Safeguarding protocol

The safeguarding procedures for lockdown are set out in the appendix to our child protection and safeguarding policy which can be found [here](#). These will be followed along with all our normal safeguarding procedures. During periods of remote teaching and learning, our teachers and non-teaching staff are reminded to alert the safeguarding teams quickly to any matters of potential safeguarding concern that they see in text, behaviour, attitudes, on camera, or otherwise, whilst engaging with pupils remotely.

Miss Mitchell (Director of Teaching and Learning)