

Truro School Lockdown Learning 2021 – Plans for Academic Enhancement

Subject teachers are delighted with the enthusiasm overwhelmingly being shown by pupils as they engage with remote learning. We know each family situation is different and, as acknowledged in our pastoral enhancement document, that our most successful pupils stay busy in mind and activity.

Whilst remote learning presents challenges to staff, pupils and parents, we learned last year that it also presents opportunities to encourage creativity, resilience and skills. Many additional, optional opportunities were offered last year during lockdown and subject departments are now again busily planning additional, optional, academic, 'supra' curricular, opportunities for pupils to choose.

We encourage pupils to participate as an excellent way of developing the whole individual, but these activities are optional and pupils and parents should best judge the level to which engagement works for you. Pupils might simply engage for interest or for the benefit of the interactivity with their peers, or indeed to stretch themselves further beyond their normal curriculum.

Many opportunities are already up and running with details and information supplied through Teams by teachers. Given the volume of what is or will become available to choose from, we are currently assembling a brochure of the academic enrichment by department for each key stage so that you and your children can browse it as a whole. Ahead of that brochure being finalised, I did want to set out below a brief flavour of the variety already on offer, or being planned, and encourage your children to look out for these and more as shared by department teams:

4th Year, 5th Year, and Sixth Form

- Covid 19 extension lectures
- Medical pathways discussion groups
- TED style talks (alumni, staff, visitors)
- Café scientifique (interactive discussion and debate over science articles)
- Pre-A Level bridging sessions (for the summer term in lockdown or not)
- Society competitions
- National Theatre Screenings
- Senior Debating
- Support with Open Learn Online Courses to prep for University and beyond
- Portrait Drawing
- Question of sport quiz
- Graphic design course
- News discussion groups

- Films to enhance studies
- Cornish History project

1st Year, 2nd Year, and 3rd Year

- Creative writing
- Cornish History project
- Crossword club
- Book club enrichment
- Collaborative departmental projects e.g. Art and English 'The Lost Spells'
- Poster competitions
- Online lectures
- Portrait Drawing
- Films to enhance studies
- PE competitions, challenges and events
- Graphic design course
- Question of sport quiz

Please do encourage your children to choose curiosity where possible, and to engage with opportunities where it is right for them. I look forward to sharing the more in-depth academic brochure soon.

Dr Pope (Deputy Head Academic)