

Our Ref: RBR/DRO/FSCCTG-20

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Home Learning

As you are aware, Baysgarth has focused over the last couple of years on designing a series of Flipped Learning tasks for our Year 7 and 8 students to complete. These replaced traditional home learning tasks and formed part of our Expert Learner Framework. These were carefully designed to encourage our students to be independent learners with a strong set of transferable skills.

However, as a result of Covid-19, our world has been turned upside down and many of our students have spent six months away from school. The government is very keen that schools focus on filling in as many gaps as possible in knowledge and skills that have been created by lockdown. This is particularly so for our disadvantaged students, who, as I'm sure many of you have read from the news reports, are in danger of falling further behind in their education and life chances.

Therefore, we have decided to amend the way we set home learning for this year, keeping the best bits of Flipped Learning but also reintroducing home learning set by their teachers, specifically designed to fill in some of these subject knowledge and skill gaps.

Model

The model will involve the reintroduction of academic homework, which will focus on the consolidation and interleaving of content from the prior academic year. This will allow the diagnosis of gaps and misconceptions in a subtle way for students, allowing staff to then personalise students therapy to address it. It is envisaged that the year's homework programme will contribute significantly to the closure of the gaps generated through the school closure and accelerate students' progress.

In addition to this, students in Year 7 and 8 will have still Flipped Learning to complete, which is an essential aspect of their character development and active teaching of positive behaviour. For our Year 7 students, they will recognise the style of Flipped Learning, as the activities we set will mirror the style of the Transition activities we undertook in the summer.

The school works on a two-week timetable and the model proposed will allow all the subjects to set academic homework once in a fortnight. Work will be set on a Monday evening before 5.15pm. Core subjects of English, Maths and Science will set work on a week A and other subjects will set work on a week B. [Click here for the full timetable](#). Students will then be given one week to complete the work. To support students without ICT access at home, we will run a Homework Room every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school.

We are working on setting up a weekly email to parents and carers, which will contain details of all these activities so you can give your child the maximum support to complete all work set.

How do we reward home learning?

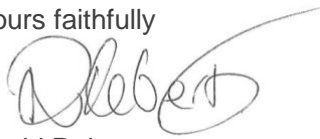
Students will be rewarded by gaining bonus House Points throughout the year; this will allow them to access our reward events. If a student does not have a good record of completing their home learning, this will make it difficult for them to reach the number of House Points needed to access these reward events.

What if my child has no ICT access at home?

The ground floor ICT room (008) will be open, supervised by a member of staff and available for all to use after school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, commencing Tuesday 22nd September.

If you have any further questions about home learning please contact me via david.roberts@baysgarthschool.co.uk or, if they are about a specific piece of home learning, please contact your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully



David Roberts
Assistant Head Teacher