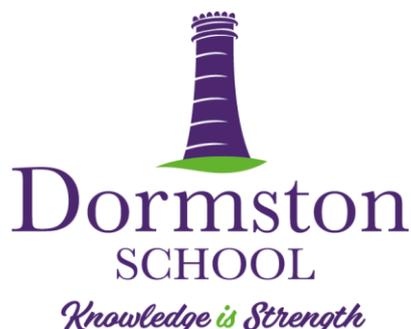


Our Ref: SDN/KON

May 2020



ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to thank you for staying in touch with us, emailing and communicating with Heads of House and Form Tutors over the time of our partial closure. Your support and feedback has been tremendous and has helped us to refine our online provision for Dormston students.

Therefore, we would now like to update you on how we will continue to set work for students from now on, along with some tips for organising home learning and some guidance as to the amount of work that we would like to see students completing.

Our intention for home learning remains the same – we will continue to set work on Go4Schools, maintaining student’s knowledge and skills, as well as providing them with a sense of normality during this unsettling time.

In order for students not to feel overwhelmed, we have constructed an alternative timetable which we will use to set work. Versions for Years 7 & 8, and Year 9 & 10 can be found below. All Year 9 students have had their first choice Options confirmed and, as a result, we would now like Year 9 students to focus only on the subjects that they will continue to study in Year 10. Year 9 students will receive details of their Options shortly. With regards to how much time students should ideally spend on each subject, please see below:

	Years 7 & 8	Year 9 & 10
English, Maths & Science	2 hours each per fortnight	3 hours each per fortnight
Other subjects (History, Computing, Geography, RE, Art, Music, Drama, MFL, Technology rotation subject)	1 hour each per fortnight	
Options		2 hours per fortnight 2 hours RE for Year 9 1 hour Careers for Year 10
Approximate total per fortnight:	15 hours	18 hours

In addition to this, we recommend at least 2 hours of reading and at least 2 hours of physical exercise each week.

Routines can really help us at stressful times. We would advise students to get up and dressed at a sensible time every day. They might find it useful to follow a timetable while they are working at home. Year 10 Options are lettered A, B, C & D. Year 9 Options are lettered E, F & G. We have suggested timetables below which could be done on a fortnightly basis:

Year 7 & 8	Week 1 1 hr slots	Week 2 1 hr slots
Monday	Maths MFL	Maths Drama
Tuesday	Science History	Science Music
Wednesday	RE Exercise	Technology Reading
Thursday	Reading Art	Geography Exercise
Friday	English Computing	English

Year 9 & 10	Week 1 1 hr slots	Week 2 1 hr slots
Monday	Maths Option A/E	Maths Option A/E
Tuesday	Science Option B/F RE (Yr 9)	Science Option B/F Careers (Yr 10)
Wednesday	Maths Option C/G Exercise	English Option C/G Reading
Thursday	Science Reading Exercise	Geography RE (Yr 9) Exercise
Friday	English Option D	English Option D

It is important that students factor in breaks. Perhaps children could take 15 minutes break before they move on from one subject to another. Any questions about work can be emailed to the class teacher. If your child would like extra work above and beyond what is set out above, our staff will continue to set Non-Required Work (NRW) which will be detailed on your fortnightly Curriculum Briefing Sheet as usual. There are also several very useful online resources that your child can access such as:

BBC Bitesize Daily lessons <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>,

The Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>

and, of course, Joe Wicks exercise <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

We will be moving exclusively to knowledge retrieval questions as assessments for next half-term. These will mostly be designed, set and completed through Microsoft Forms. Your child should receive one assessment per subject per half-term. If students cannot access Microsoft Teams, paper copies of assessments will be provided.

I would like to stress again that students will not get into trouble if they are struggling with or are unable to complete home learning. We understand that there may be many challenges to completing work each day. All we ask is that students do the best they can and keep in touch with us so that we can help in any way that we can. We would like to thank our students for the resilience that they have shown over the last 2 months, and you for your support and encouragement. We will as always keep you informed of any future developments.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Dixon
Head Teacher