



## Information for Parents - Remote Teaching and Learning

As we enter this next phase of our closure, it is not surprising that many parents, particularly those with children in Year 7-9, are becoming concerned about the amount of time they will be out of school and how we can continue to support your child remotely.

This has been a steep learning curve for us all and whilst we have all worked hard to do the best for our students, we will never fully replicate the conditions of the classroom. At Netherthorpe, we always try to be proactive, forward thinking and use research informed practices. Since closure, we have received very positive feedback about our home learning offer as well as some genuine concerns.

**To ensure our remote learning provision is as effective as it can be, we recognise that it is important we continue to evaluate our offer and adapt our lessons accordingly.**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020, the Educational Endowment Foundation published its rapid evidence assessment report which examines the existing research (from 60 systematic reviews and meta-analyses) for approaches that schools could use, or are already using, to support the learning of pupils while schools are closed due to Covid-19.

In summary, some of the key findings of this research suggest that the quality of the resources and materials used are more important than how lessons are delivered. Pupils can learn through remote teaching. There was no clear difference between teaching in real time ('live' lessons) and alternatives (pre-recorded videos and resources). What matters most is whether the explanation builds clearly on pupils' prior learning or how pupils' understanding is subsequently assessed. It also found that different approaches to remote learning suit different types of content and pupils. As such any approaches to remote learning should be flexible and teachers will use approaches best suited to the content they are they are teaching and the age of their pupils.

In addition to studying the outcomes of this research, we have also liaised with other Secondary schools across Derbyshire, looking at best practice to ensure that children at Netherthorpe have access to the most effective provision available.

In response to this work, teachers have been provided with guidance on remote teaching and encouraged to engage with some new teaching methods and strategies that overcome some of the challenges of remote learning and allows classes to continue to enjoy their learning wherever and whenever it takes place. This includes looking at the use of recorded video clips, pre-recorded videos and narrated power points for delivering new concepts.

Whilst repetition and consolidation of knowledge, with regular revisiting and embedding of learning has been shown to grow confidence and a sense of sustained achievement, departments will now start to incorporate methods of introducing new learning to your child in a way that is manageable and not overwhelming for home learning. **If your child is struggling with any of the work set by a teacher or they wish to ask subject- specific questions, please encourage them to email the teacher direct or send them a message via the Show My Homework platform.**

**Be realistic** about what you can do. Home is very important right now for parents working, children learning and families spending time together. You are **not expected** to become teachers and your children are not expected to learn as they do in school. Do not put pressure on yourself to create a perfect learning programme or fill every hour with schooling.

It is inevitable, that children will experience periods of learning fatigue and reduced motivation. Using pre-recorded videos and alternative resources to support their



learning is a good strategy to keep them interested. They are also great for supplementing the tasks set by school. Some departments will have posted links to these resources on Show My Homework but parents can access them at any time. Please see the information below for more detail about the free resources available;

### **Oak National Academy**

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/> An online classroom and resource hub created by teachers. This site provides high-quality, sequenced video lessons and resources for students from reception to year 10, please follow the subject or schedule buttons.

### **BBC Bitesize Daily**

Lessons returned on June 1st with **new online lessons** available for Years 7-10 on the **BBC Bitesize website** and **compilation TV programmes** available on the **BBC iPlayer**. There will be **new TV programmes** on BBC iPlayer and Red Button from **Monday June 8th**. Written by teachers and education experts, BBC Bitesize can help support students independently across a wide range of curriculum subjects. And it's available to everyone. No fees. Just lovely learning content.

#### ***Some upcoming highlights include:***

- A Year 7 Geography lesson, which explores the rock landscapes of The Yorkshire Dales.
- Year 9 students can calculate the probability of an event happening in this Maths lesson.
- Learn about a variety of ecosystems around the world in this Year 10 Biology lesson.

**In addition, every Thursday Bitesize Instagram hosts a Live Q&A and quiz aimed at Year 10s.** This week is a **Science Takeover** which will cover contraception and fertility treatment in Biology; the periodic table in Chemistry; and radiation in Physics. Students can put their questions to three teachers in a live Q&A and then take part in an interactive quiz to consolidate what they have learnt. The following week will cover topics including **History, Geography and Maths** and will continue to cover a wide range of subjects in the coming weeks. Students can watch the live stream on Instagram every Thursday from 10.30am

### **Bitesize Daily: The Big Read Lessons**

Bitesize Daily Big Read Lessons have been collated into one place to make it easier for you to find them. The lessons feature some familiar faces including Stephen Fry, Simon Mayo and Joanna Lumley reading extracts from a range of books for Years 7 - 9. Each lesson is accompanied by a range of activities.

### **PSHE GCSE: Football, Prince William and Our Mental Health**

This series of six PSHE films on the BBC Teach website is aimed at GCSE students and focuses on mental health. The films cover a number of topics including: anxiety, depression and bereavement.

The **Department of Education** have also created a list of **online educational resources to help children to learn at home**. These resources have been identified by leading educational experts and offer a wide range of support and resources for pupils of all ages. Subject specific resources for Key stage 1 to 5 for English, Maths, Science, PE, wellbeing and Special educational needs and disability (SEND) are available.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources>