

Tapton SCHOOL

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Updated Principles for Home Learning During COVID-19 School Closure

Whilst school is closed for the majority of students Tapton teachers will follow these principles to provide inclusive and meaningful distance learning for our students.

Caring for each other and **valuing everyone** remain at the heart of these plans. The government have now provided further clarity on the duration of distance learning for students in all year groups. In response to this we have refined our principles to enable teachers to collaborate and support all members of our school community.

The following principles still form the basis for our work going forward:

1. Young people continue to have an entitlement to learning, but this may look very different from normal school. The majority of students should only be working for around 3 hours a day, this may vary according to key stage.
2. There are many different ways to support our students with their distance learning – one model will not be appropriate or indeed manageable for all year groups. Students across the key stages and across departments may have different packages.
3. We accept that students and teachers will not be as productive in this environment.
4. We will aim to make learning as inclusive as possible. We are aware that many of our disadvantaged students will not have the technology or space to complete online activities – menus with both online and offline options can support here. Choices are made around file formats so that they can be easily viewed on a mobile device. It is unreasonable to expect that siblings living together will have individual access to tablets, laptops or indeed fast broadband. We still await the delivery of the laptops promised or our Y10 disadvantaged students, however we are working with families on a case by case basis to improve access to home learning resources.
5. It is not healthy or safe for students to be on their screens online all day. However, some use of screens is unavoidable. We have aimed to mitigate this by prompting students to use exercise books or paper where they can.
6. Our SEND and Visually Impaired students need to access the material provided which is differentiated and modified accordingly. For example, Visually Impaired students need to be able to stretch documents on screen or have enlarged print on Word PDFs.
7. We do not expect parents to 'home school' children, but we will try to provide activities, guidance and support that will help everyone to do the best they can within the situation as it unfolds.



Valuing everyone, Caring for each other, Achieving excellence

These further principles will also inform our strategy moving forward:

8. Year 12 assessment week will still take place online during the week commencing 15th June. Students will receive a timetable and papers will come through via the learning platform. This will allow us to provide summative and formative feedback on year 12 and will feed into our Year 12 reports and will form a central part of the UCAS reference and predicted grades.
9. We will now begin to introduce new content with at least 1 hour of new learning subjects delivered at Y12 each week followed by 2 hours on consolidation. Subject teachers may postpone this until after the assessment week. Y10 students will have at least 30 minutes of new content for English, Maths and Science each week and 30 minutes once a fortnight for other subjects alongside further consolidation of prior learning.
10. Year 9 students will now begin their transition to GCSE. Each subject (apart from English, Maths, Science and RE) will set a project for students who intend to take their subject at GCSE. If they wish to complete the projects for other subjects they are of course welcome to do so. The results of this project work will be celebrated widely.
11. Teachers will trial a number of strategies to provide in-depth explanation of new content. They will also offer some form of interactivity during the week and will provide feedback to students. Some may experiment with live lessons using Nearpod or Microsoft Teams but we have no expectation that all teachers will deliver in this way. Many teachers will produce 'talking PowerPoints' to guide students through new content.
12. Year 10s will not have a formal assessment week next half term – this will now take place in late September/October. Teachers will continue to set work, provide feedback and contact year 10s who have not responded in the lead up to the summer holiday.
13. Teachers will communicate with students in their class each week to direct them to the work on the learning platform using Bromcom and check in with them weekly via their school email.



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