

1 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to give you an update on the materials and support that are available for all of our students at this challenging time. Based on the entries we receive for our daily and weekly challenges on social media, I know many students are still very much involved with the school each day whilst staying safe at home. This engagement and enthusiasm reflects the strength of our core school value of Community and is a real inspiration for colleagues who are busy at home, supporting online learning and looking forward to returning to learning with our young people again.

I know some parents and students are also making use of Oak National Academy (www.thenational.academy) and BBC Bitesize (www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize). Both resources have a range of activities that can help add a little variety to our learning each day, and as ever, many of our students continue to use GCSEpod to access online content and quizzes on their own phones, all of which will help them stay in touch with their studies.

We are contacting all of our families by telephone, making sure students can access our online learning platform and proving an opportunity for parents and carers to ask any questions that you have. If colleagues are unable to answer any questions directly, we will do our best to provide a further response as soon as possible. If you have recently changed your contact details we would ask that you update us using the email address enquiries@southhunsley.org.uk.

At this time, safeguarding young people continues to be very important, especially as students spend an increased amount of time online, both for school work and socialising. The safeguarding page of our school website has contact information for colleagues should you have any concerns. You will also find a range of useful links to information related to keeping children safe online and issues around online radicalisation, which has been in the news recently.

Please take a few moments to read through the information provided and remember that staff from the school are available throughout the week to support parents, carers and students. Please use any of our contact email addresses to get in touch and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.

All Year Groups

Our learning platform is designed to allow parents and students to put their own timetable together. We know that there can be big differences in the timing and lengths of time that students spend learning. This might depend on access to electronic devices and the internet, parent working patterns, online classes such as dancing or music and many other factors.

We encourage you to support your son/daughter to complete work across a range of subjects, spending short but focussed sessions on each. The most important thing is for students to maintain

their learning habits. Please be assured that any content can be revisited if needed when we return to school. Remember too that work can be completed on paper as well as electronically, and most tasks are designed to be accessed without needing to be printed.

To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day, during the week commencing Monday 4 May there will be resources available in the tutor folder for all students to access. We hope students take a little time to reflect on the experiences of previous generations during their own turbulent times.

Year 7 and Year 8

Thanks to all students who took part in the Easter Mini Mystery and Easter Treasure Hunt from the Mathematics folder. Thanks also to students who submitted entries for the Religious Studies 'Design A Window' competition.

Some of you may be aware that our Religious Education teachers had spoken to Year 8 students about the possibility of choosing between two different social and cultural courses shortly before the school was closed. This choice will be revisited upon our return to school.

As we have confirmed previously, all of our school visits including those to Glan Llyn and Ribblesdale are currently on hold. Please ignore any email requesting further payments for any of our visits. Details of alternative dates or arrangements for any cancelled visits will be confirmed as soon as we have them.

Year 9

Hopefully all parents and carers have now received our letter confirming options choices, including where there have been any changes requested by students. We have also been contacting students as there are a small number of options combinations that are not possible. If there are any queries regarding options, please contact your son/daughter's Head of House as soon as possible. We will not normally write to you again confirming final options but students can rest assured that unless they are contacted by the school, their options will be as confirmed on this letter.

Our History visit to the battlefields of France and Belgium will not take place on the dates planned. Further information for parents and students will follow as soon as it is available. In the meantime, look out for our plans to mark VE day which will be taking shape next week.

Year 10

This Friday marks the end of our first 'New Content' fortnights for Year 10 students. Material has been set in all subjects that students have not covered before. There are also specific tasks set that can be submitted to teachers for feedback. This work can be submitted in a number of different formats including email or by traditional post – please see our guidance on the learning platform for any help with this. Please look out for our online survey asking about your experiences with the online platform. I would encourage as many of you as possible to offer your feedback so that we can continue to refine and improve our provision.

We await the results of the current consultation by the Department for Education that will decide whether Year 10 students will be awarded their Religious Studies GCSE this year. Our Religious Education team continue to provide work but we do know that the exam definitely will not take place this summer.

Year 11

Alongside the work that was already set for our Year 11 students, bridging work is now available for all Post-16 subjects. We are in the process of contacting all students planning to join our sixth form to confirm their options choices. Students who wish to are able to choose an additional fourth option.

Students who are leaving us this summer can continue to access any of our materials. As outlined in our separate letter, students who are joining the world of work can also complete a number of professional courses via the Educare Platform. Full details can be found in the Careers and Employability folder of our online resources.

Google Garage also allows all of our students to complete courses linked to their career interest areas. The link is <https://learndigital.withgoogle.com/digitalgarage/courses>.

Unfortunately our Year 11 Leavers Prom will not be going ahead as planned. We continue to work to find a suitable alternative date, although this will be dependent on an end to the current restrictions, particularly for the catering and hospitality industry. As soon as we have any more news we will be in touch.

Thank you again to all parents who provided Proud Letters and who helped to keep their contents a secret. We are very sorry that we not going to be able to give this fantastic surprise to students, and we are in the process of returning all of these that we received. We hope that you will still want to share these with your son/daughter.

Although it will be very different to normal, GCSE Results Day has been confirmed as Thursday 20 August. Further details will follow.

Year 12

New material is now available on the learning platform for all subjects. This work is set fortnightly and includes a task that should be submitted to teachers for feedback. Any student who is not able to access this work should contact their teacher or a member of the sixth form team who will be happy to help.

We await further details of the planned visit to Berlin, due to take place in the autumn and will share these as soon as we have them.

We are also waiting for confirmation from the Department for Education on whether students who were entered for exams this year, including in Further Maths, will be awarded a grade or will need to sit these exams at a later date. Please rest assured that whatever the outcome is, we will do our best as always to support students.

Please also look out for our online survey asking about student experiences with the online learning platform. If you or your son or daughter have any feedback that can help us refine and improve our provision, we would love to hear from you.

Year 13

Most students will be thinking of their plans for the future. Students planning to go on to Higher Education can access reading lists and bridging material from any of the universities they have applied to. Students can also access the Educare and Google Garage resources available on the Careers and Employability section of our online learning platform.

Any student expecting to access an apprenticeship is encouraged to contact their prospective employer and politely enquire if any further information is available. Our careers advisor is also available for any student should they need support. Please email the sixth form team to request a telephone appointment.

The Year 13 Prom is currently postponed and we will look to update students as soon as we have any further details on this.

Results Day will be very different this year and is expected to go ahead as planned on Thursday 13 August.

School Visits

All visits are currently being reviewed. Please do not make any further payments. As soon as we have more details about any of the visits that were planned we will be in touch with those affected.

I hope this summary has been useful but if you do have any questions please contact the school via the email enquiries@southhunsley.org.uk .

Yours faithfully



Barry Gray
Deputy Headteacher

Planning your Learning – Reminders

Set out a weekly plan



My Weekly Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning Learning							
Morning Learning			Break				
Morning Learning							
Afternoon Learning			Lunch				
Afternoon Learning							
Evening Activities			Break				
Evening Activities							

REMINDER

Our Online Learning Platform is updated fortnightly.

There is usually more work than can be completed in a fortnight for each subject. Do not feel that all work needs to be completed if some takes longer than expected.

Instructions on the platform explain how to submit work to teachers for feedback.

REMINDER

Contact any of our Subject Support emails if you need help.

These all follow a similar format...

E.g.

English.Support@southhunsley.org.uk

My Weekly Timetable - Example

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning Learning	Maths	English	Science	Reading Hour/English	Maths		
Morning Learning			Break				
Morning Learning	Art/D&T	Exercise Routine	Geography	History	Exercise Routine		Try to stick to your normal routines and hobbies as much as possible at home.
Morning Learning			Lunch				
Afternoon Learning	English/MFL	Drama/Music	Business Studies/IT	Art/D&T	Science		
Afternoon Learning			Break				
Evening Activities	Physical Activities	Hobbies	Video Games/Netflix	Chores	Social Media		

What should I be doing?

Years 7 – 9

Try to vary your work so you are studying between 6 and 10 of your different subjects each week. Some of your sessions may last longer than others. School lessons last for one hour, so avoid working any longer than this without a break. Type, write or think out your responses and answers to the work or challenges set. Avoid printing anything that you do not need to.

Year 10

Vary your work so you are doing a mixture of your most frequent lessons of English, Maths and Science, alongside your options subjects. Some subjects will set tasks that last longer than others. School lessons last for one hour, so avoid working any longer than this without a break. Type, write or think out your responses and answers to the work or challenges set. Avoid printing anything that you do not need to.

Year 11

Bridging tasks are now available in many subjects on the Learning Platform, which is open to all Year 11 students. Plan your time carefully, with a focus on areas you want to pursue in the future.