



January 2021

Overview of Remote Learning at Blacon High School

Remote learning and teaching has developed immensely since last lockdown and we, at Blacon High School, have continued to develop professionally through research and our bespoke continuous professional development (CPD) to be able to be prepared and deliver to the highest possible standard to our students. As a result, the majority of lessons are being delivered through the 'live' platform of Google Classroom and when this is not possible, recorded lessons are used to engage and enable our students to progress.

Remote learning can take on many forms of 'live' depending on age group, subject area and even time of the day. Additionally, it is important to note the context in which our teachers are delivering remotely, in that many of us are parents who are managing the preparation of high quality content for lessons, delivering these 'live', recording lessons for when they are teaching key worker/vulnerable students and not to mention, providing home schooling for their own children. The staff at Blacon High are committed to providing the very best for your children and will use various forms of teaching to do so.

Finally, an important part of our remote learning is that all subject areas are following the broad and required curriculum that we would normally provide in a 'normal' environment. Despite the differences in method, we are not reducing the level of content and continue to adapt our main curriculum to be delivered well remotely.

So, what can a form of 'live' lesson look like for our child?

1. Google Meet link will be shared via class stream – students must go via this link to be in the correct classroom – this is the first step – being in the right place, at the right time!
2. The teacher may introduce the topic for the day through a starter activity to get students thinking about what they already know and will present this via the sharing screen.
3. Verbal feedback will happen to check understanding and to enable students to progress to next stage of lesson to begin practicing the main Learning Objective.
4. This can be teacher-led, or students may be required to do a task independently but regardless, the teacher will be present to support via 'chat' should this be needed.
5. Further feedback will occur, once again, to check for any misconceptions for students to then progress to the end task where teachers will leave students to work and submit answers.

How are you monitoring progress of our child?

Further methods of feedback can be expected when main pieces of work are completed and these can be in the following forms: individual marks/grades, whole class feedback, personalised feedback through annotations and also peer and self-assessment – well-practised strategies that students use in the classroom.



As mentioned earlier, subject areas are following the curriculum that they planned and designed for this academic year and this includes the half-termly assessment, too. These formal pieces will be marked and recorded on our internal tracking system to ensure we can check on students and provide any additional support where it might be needed.

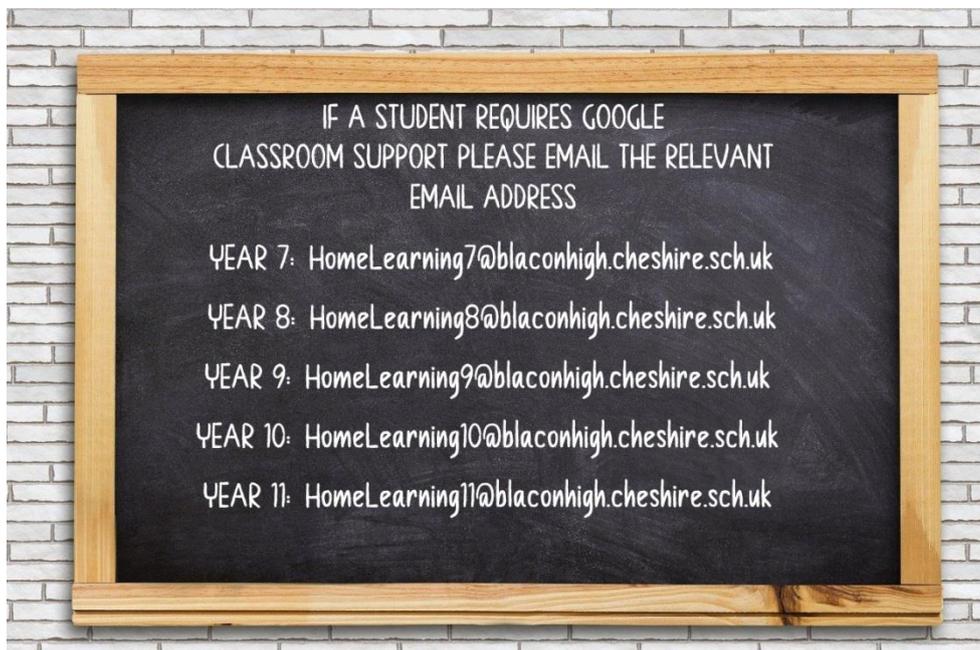
How often is our child expected to be online?

All subject areas are following the original school timetable and students should be accessing the required amount of lessons for each subject area as they would when in school. **Please note that students' timetables will be uploaded every two weeks for you all to check what time each lesson is scheduled, should your child not have their planner to hand.**

We ask for your patience, understanding and most importantly, flexibility with the timing of when teachers and students come on to any form of 'live' lesson. Some teachers will have four or five lessons in one day and the changeover will require setting up a new 'live' code for the next class, so please do sit patiently and wait for your teacher, should they be a little late. Likewise, teachers will patiently wait for your children, should they be in another 'live' lesson and need to set up for the next lesson.

Will anybody be contacting us about how they are doing?

We, as a team of teachers and parents ourselves, realise the challenges that remote learning present and we know that many parents have jobs to do throughout the day and families to care for. Your child's tutor will contact you by phone, every two weeks, to check on progress and they will also be able to inform you of their progress on Google Classroom across the subjects. Additionally, tutors will also be aiming to email once a week, to ensure all is well. This is in addition to the daily contact available with teachers through the chat facility during lessons. **Please do not hesitate to contact us in between, too, should something be of a concern, either by phone between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday or by email.**



All of the above has been well-researched and is working well across all subject areas, however, we do need your support to make this as successful as it can be and needs to be. Please do encourage your child/children to maintain a school routine from Monday to Friday as this will support their emotional well-being and health just as much as the academic side that we are providing. It will also enable the transition back into school, once we are allowed to welcome them all back again.

Finally, please do continue to access our school website and social media for all updates and key information that is required to support home learning.