

## NEWSLETTER

#### **Headteacher Message**

As we end the second week of our national lockdown Dean Trust Rose Bridge continues to operate as a 'virtual' school for the majority of our pupils. We have so far distributed over 250 devices to our families; if you still require additional support with devices or the internet please contact us as a matter of urgency at office@deantrustrosebridge.co.uk.

We will shortly begin our second wave of allocations to families who are sharing one device between more than one child so please bear with us, as you can imagine this is not a quick task! Thank you to Miss Sharples for coordinating the Chromebook rollout.





**Executive Headteacher** 

### **DFE Device Update:**

Since the end of the Christmas Holidays school staff have been working hard to distribute over 250 devices to our pupils working from home. In enabling our pupils to work from home on school devices, we are ensuring more of our pupils can access their pre-recorded lessons as well as live sessions.

## Are your details correct?

Do we have your correct details? It is very important, especially in the current situation that the school has your correct details such as phone numbers, email addresses and postal address. Please contact school with any updates.

01942 510712

office@deantrustrosebridge.co.uk





We are now a cashless school download our App!!

## **Important Updates**

#### **Mass Testing**

Please be aware as per the instructions from the Government we now have a mass testing centre on site where all keyworker/vulnerable pupils are tested to ensure that our site continues to be Covid secure. These tests are available only to the pupils who are signed up to still come to school – when school reopens fully we will await further advice as to how these mass tests would be rolled out to the wider school community.

#### Free School Meals

We are in the process of moving to a voucher scheme again to provide Free School Meals to our pupils who are eligible. Again, we ask for your support in being patient whilst this national scheme is rolled out. For next week we ask that parents continue to order a 'grab bag' as you have already been doing that can be picked up from outside reception each day.

#### Year 9 options:

As we move towards Easter, it is now the time for pupils in year 9 to start to think about what journey they want to undertake for the remainder of their time at Dean trust Rose Bridge. The options process for year 9 is starting to be rolled out over the next couple of weeks and this will entail pupils choosing four additional subjects to English, Maths and Science for them to study at Key Stage 4.

This decision can at times be a hard one as pupils are not always sure about what subjects are available to them or what career pathway they want to take. This is the time for pupils to start researching possible career pathways and what subjects are needed. We will assist pupils and parents to make informed choices by providing a detailed options booklet and videos which outline what each subject entail. This information will be rolled out towards the end of this half term.

#### Year 11 Assessment:

As the country awaits the decisions of the Government and Ofqual on what the process of awarding GCSE grades will look like, I urge both pupils and parents to remain calm through these uncertain times. We will keep parents informed regarding any national notices that are made to ensure that clarity about the process.

What we would like to stress to all pupils and parents is that pupils are still expected to continue with the course content for all subjects on Google Classroom. This will enable pupils to fully prepare themselves for their future courses or chosen employment. The acquiring of this further subject content and the engagement of pupils through this current lock down <u>may</u> also contribute the awarding of the GCSE grades in the summer as we await further clarity from the Government and Ofqual.



## Personal Development and Well Being

We are mindful that in these strange times, routine is essential. Therefore we are continuing to offer our tutor time curriculum every morning so that all pupils feel supported in these challenging times. The activities below are the activities that would normally occur on a weekly basis and can be accessed through the year group classrooms on Google Classroom.

#### **PDC Timetable:**

**Monday:** Literacy @ Home. Engaging reading and response tasks.

**Tuesday:** Numeracy Ninjas. Can you become a ninja before 9am? (Year 9) Specific Science.

Hone your Science Skills from home.

**Wednesday:** PDC. Looking after your wellbeing – staying healthy during lockdown. **Thursday:** PDC. Looking after your wellbeing – staying healthy during lockdown.

Friday: Year group assembly. Tune in to your HOY as they talk you through the updates from your

year group and award Google Classroom engagement prizes!

#### Our assembly session is as follows:

15th Jan – Year Group Stars of the Week

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan – Looking after our own wellbeing

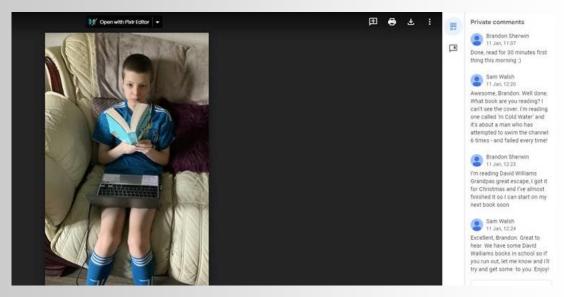
29<sup>th</sup> Jan – Finding motivation

5<sup>th</sup> Feb – Keeping resilience

12th Feb – Responding to change



We have been thrilled with the response by pupils so far. Here is Brandon Sherwin in Year 7 engaging in his form time reading!



On our website, under the home learning section, we also have lots of valuable information, contact numbers and websites. The Barnardo's website in particular has created a section specifically designed to support parents of teenagers and secondary school pupils with guidance and answers to frequently asked questions, so please take a look at our website to find out more.

A really valuable, user friendly guide to help and support your child during lockdown 3 including lots of

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https://www.barnardos.org.uk/blog/supporting-teenagers-during-lockdown?fbclid=lwAR2qoJ-1P7wfMPKxWkVCGIcPb0HIOA4XPINPsOI\_8tODj3w4y\_goDlhVuEQ

## More Live Sessions Starting 18th January 2021

Pupils at home are still expected to log on to Google Classroom each day and complete the lessons assigned to them by their teachers. If they are struggling to submit work or need any help or guidance they can access weekly live sessions as per the timetable below. Please note these may be subject to change if circumstances change in these difficult and uncertain times.

https://www.wired.co.uk/article/xbox-playstation-online-learning-classroom-teams-zoom https://www.techradar.com/uk/how-to/how-to-access-home-learning-on-ps4-and-xbox-one

#### Live Sessions:

To support students with their Remote Learning there will be a large number of live sessions starting from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January for pupils to access through their Google Classrooms. The links to these sessions will be announced in pupils individual classrooms on their steam. Any issues please contact your child's Head of Year so we can support you in joining these sessions. There will be strict protocols. We expect pupils to:

- > Turn off their microphones when in a live lesson.
- Turn off their cameras when in a live lesson.
- ➤ Use the chat function to ask relevant and appropriate learning questions.
- Agree to follow all typical school rules on appropriate behaviour.
- ➤ Understand that any poor behaviour may mean that they are removed from live sessions
- Not share google meet codes with anyone else.
- Be suitable dressed for live sessions.
- Complete all work set to the best of their ability.
- ➤ Use their first name and surname when joining a teacher's online classroom

Date:	Live Q&A Session	Time Slot	Subject Support Session	Time Slot
Monday 18h Jan	Year 11 Science	10am	Year 11 Science	1pm
	Year 10 Science	11am		
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year 11 Spanish	10am	Year 11 History	2pm J
	Year 10 Spanish	11am		
	Year 11 History	11am		
	Year 10 History	1pm		
	Year 11 RE	12pm		
	Year 10 Citizenship	2pm		
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	KS4 PE	10am		
	KS4 PA	12.30pm		
	English 11	1pm		
	English 10	2pm		
Thursday 21st	KS4 Art and Tech	1pm	Year 11 Maths	11am
	Year 11 Maths	9am		
	Year 10 Maths	9.30am		
	Year 9 Maths	1pm		
	Year 8 Maths	2pm		
	Year 7 Maths	2pm		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 11 Geography	10am	Year 11 Science	1pm
	Year 10 Geography	1pm	Year 11 Geog	11am
	Year 7 Science	10am		
	Year 8 Science	10.30am		
	Year 9 Science	11am		
	English Year 7	10.30am		
	English Year 8	11am		
	English Year 9	11.30am		

#### Literacy

#### Word of the Week:

Catastrophe noun
A sudden and widespread disaster.

Challenge 1: Can you think of any synonyms for the word 'catastrophe'?

Challenge 2: Write a short story about a

catastrophe



## **Book of the week and Reading Plus**

So, here we are in lockdown again! Although libraries are shut, there are a number of websites providing online reading materials which can be accessed from home, which I have included below. I hope you will find these useful. Regular reading is so important if pupils are to continue to develop as readers.

https://www.gutenberg.org/

http://www.authorama.com/

https://researchify.co.uk/audiobooks.html

https://newsforkids.net/

https://www.theguardian.com/newswise/2019/jan/18/child-friendly-news

https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Libraries/eMagazines.aspx



One book to recommend this week. One that my daughter loved when she was in High school is 'Girl Missing' by Sophie Mckenzie. It's a fast-paced thriller about a girl who is adopted and gets into terrible danger when she tries to find out about her mysterious past. In response to the latest lockdown, we have registered as many KS3 pupils as possible on the Reading Plus online reading programme.

Regular reading is vital, as we found during the first lockdown that many of our pupils' reading ages actually went backwards and we had to put interventions in place to make up the lost ground. We appreciate that it is difficult, in the present circumstances to gain access to new books, so we hope that, through reading Plus, as many of our young people as possible will be able to continue to read regularly, as they would be doing in school.

On Reading Plus, pupils will complete an initial assessment, which ensures that they will be presented with reading material that is appropriate to their ability and will challenge them to develop their skills in word recognition and comprehension further.

If your child/teenager receives an email invitation to join the Reading Plus classroom in Google Classrooms, they will find full details of how to access the programme once they join. There are about 20 places left, so please contact school if you would like your child to be allocated one of them and I will do my best to include them. Pupils who were already using Reading Plus before lockdown can continue to log in and use it as normal.



## **Year 11 Parents Evening**

Year 11 Parents Evening is now occurring on Thursday 11th February. This Virtual event will take place from 3pm to 7 pm and it's important that parents of year 11 pupils make appointments as soon as possible as it will contain vital information on how we can support your child moving forwards. Information regarding passwords and login details have been sent separately- if you have not received this information- please email Office@deantrustrosebridge.co.uk and with FOA Miss K Johnson or Mr Volante in the email subject heading.

Parents' Guide for Booking Appointments
Browse to https://deantrustrosebridge.schoolcloud.co.uk



#### Step 1: Login

Fill out the details on the page then click the Log In button.

A confirmation of your appointments will be sent to the email address you provide



#### Step 2: Select Parents' Evening

Click on the date you wish to book.

Unable to make the date listed? Click I'm unable to attend.



#### Step 3: Select Booking Mode

Choose *Automatic* if you'd like the system to suggest the shortest possible appointment schedule based on the times you're available to attend. To pick the times to book with each teacher, choose *Manual*. Then press *Next*. We recommend choosing the automatic booking mode when browsing on a mobile device.



#### Step 4: Choose Teachers

If you chose the automatic booking mode, drag the sliders at the top of the screen to indicate the earliest and latest you can attend.

Select the teachers you'd like to book appointments with. A green tick indicates they're selected. To de-select, click on their name.

You may book other teachers not listed on the screen by clicking Add a Teacher.



#### Step 5a (Automatic): Book Appointments

If you chose the automatic booking mode, you'll see provisional appointments which are held for 2 minutes. To keep them, choose Accept at the bottom left.

If it wasn't possible to book every selected teacher during the times you are able to attend, you can either adjust the teachers you wish to meet with and try again, or switch to manual booking mode (Step 5b).



#### Step 5b (Manual): Book Appointments

Click any of the green cells to make an appointment. Blue cells signify where you already have an appointment. Grey cells are unavailable.

To change an appointment, delete the original by hovering over the blue box and clicking Delete. Then choose an alternate time.

Once you're finished booking all appointments, at the top of the page in the alert box, press click here to finish the booking process.



#### Step 6: Finished

All your bookings now appear on the My Bookings page. An email confirmation has been sent and you can also print appointments by pressing Print. Click Subscribe to Calendar to add these and any future bookings to your calendar. To change your appointments, click on Amend Bookings.

## **Wigan Council**



Your reference: Please ask for:

Cath Pealing

Extension: Direct line:

01942 489453 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware the Prime Minister has announced a full lockdown which has meant that all schools were closed except for children categorised as vulnerable and children of our critical workers. None of us wanted the 2021 to start like this and we had hoped that all of our children would be returning to school by the 18th January at the very latest.

We need to drive down the infection rates in Wigan and indeed the whole country so that we are all safe and secure in returning to everyday life. In order to do that, it is crucial we all follow the government guidance of staying home unless absolutely necessary. We need everyone to follow this guidance to protect not only the NHS but also ourselves, our families and our friends. Hopefully, with the roll out of the vaccine and keeping to the guidance this will happen sooner rather than later.

Government guidance for schools and for parents and carers has been very clear about who should access places in schools. 'Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.' Full guidance for parents and carers can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision

We would ask that if you can, as the guidance says keep your child at home then please do so. Schools are under increasing pressure to manage the number of children and young people in school due to staff not being able to attend school due to COVID issues. Schools may therefore as a last resort have to consider prioritising places for vulnerable children, health workers and school staff. Schools will only do this after considering their Risk Assessment and consultation with their governing body and Wigan Council. This will be continually reviewed as situations change throughout this current lockdown. Your school will keep you informed as to what is happening. Schools will likely have to make appropriate adjustments to their offer if they have any issues with their capacity in staff to support and safeguard children both on school site and at home.

Alongside having children in school, schools are working hard to provide a high quality remote learning for those accessing education at home. As you can imagine this is placing a very heavy burden on staff to ensure that everyone is catered for. Please do remember that all school situations are different and this

Wigan Council, People Directorate: Children, Adults and Families.
Phone: 0.1942 489452
colette.dutton@wigan.gov.uk
www.wigan.gov.uk

impacts on how a school will deliver remote learning. There are many different ways that this can be delivered and no one way is the only way.

Some schools may have the facilities to deliver 'live' lessons and other may not be able to do so, that does not mean that their offer is any less effective. Please do work with your school to support your child and if you do have any worries then please discuss with your school. All our schools have worked incredibly hard to ensure that what they are offering is helping our children and young people to carry on learning in very difficult circumstances. If you are struggling with accessing online learning again please do speak to your

We would ask that you continue to encourage your children to follow the advice of Hands, Face, Space. Our schools will continue to reinforce this message as well as ensuring social distancing, good ventilation, use of face coverings as appropriate, and ensuring people with symptoms do not attend. These remain the most effective ways to reduce the spread of the virus, even with rapid testing in place within schools.

However, as parents and carers you could further support by not sending children to school unless necessary—stay at home; please don't bring children to school if they are of an age when they can walk there on their own. If you need to take your child to school please observe hands, face, space, wear a face covering and don't stand around the playground or school gates. We need to continue to try and minimise people mixing.

We want to thank you for your continued support in these incredibly challenging times for everyone. We would ask that you continue to work with and support our schools with the same consideration you have done so throughout this pandemic.

Please take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Colette Dutton Director of Children's Services Wigan Council Professor Kate Ardern Director of Public Health Wigan Council

## Useful contacts and online resources

#### Revision Skills- Revision Hacks.

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/revision-skills-revision-hacks/

#### **Pomodoro Technique:**

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/revision-skills-pomodoro/

#### Worksheet:

#### **Traffic Light Technique:**

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/revision-skills-traffic-light-technique/

#### **Revision Timetable:**

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/revision-skills-revision-timetable-handout/



https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/choices-he-what-and-why/

#### **Choices- Post-16 options**

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/choices-post-16-options/

#### Student Life - HE options

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/student-life-he-options/

#### Student Life - Support at university

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/student-life-support-at-uni/

#### Worksheet:

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/choices-post-16-options-true-or-false/

#### Student Life - Path Finder

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/student-life-path-finder/



#### **TOPIC: INTERVIEW SKILLS**

Interview Skills - How to get through your interview

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/interview-skills-your-interview/

#### Interview Skills - First Impressions

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/interview-skills-first-impressions/

#### **WORKSHEETS:**

Interview Skills - Who got the job?

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/interview-skills-who-got-the-job/

Interview Skills - What makes you stand out?

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/interview-skills-stand-out/

#### **TOPIC: BUDGETING SKILLS**

**Budgeting Skills – Prudent Student Game** 

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/budgeting-skills-prudent-student/

#### **Budgeting Skills - Mythbusting**

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/budgeting-skills-mythbusting/

Budgeting Skills - What students spend their money on

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/budgeting-skills-spending/

#### WORKSHEETS:

**Budgeting Skills – Budgeting activity Instagram** 

https://gmhigher.ac.uk/resources/budgeting-skills-instagram/



## Useful contacts and online resources

#### Websites and information to support young peoples and families during the Covid-19 pandemic

#### Children's society

Description – information and support on different aspects of mental health and wellbeing

Website - www.childrenssociety.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support

Description - Online support for young people up to the age of 19 including chat rooms and advice.

Website - www.kooth.com

#### MindEd

Description – Support for a range of mental health and wellbeing

Website - www.minded.org.uk

#### Rise Above

Description - videos with tips on gaining confidence, dealing with anxiety and coping strategies from other young people.

Website - https://riseabove.org.uk/topic/my-mind/

#### BACP guidance around managing anxiety

Description – How to manage anxiety

Website - https://www.bacp.co.uk/news/news-from-bacp/2020/28-february-coronavirus-anxiety-how-tocope-if-you-re-feeling-anxious-about-the-outbreak/

#### The Child Bereavement Network

Description – support for young people who have or are being affected by a death of a person close to them

Website - http://www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk/covid-19.aspx

#### **National Autistic Society**

Description - guidance and helpline for parents', young people and staff.

Website - www.autism.org.uk/services/nas-schools/vanguard/news/2020/march/coronavirus-(covid-19)advice.aspx

#### Young Minds

Description - Talking to your child about Coronavirus and 10 tips from their Parents Helpline to support family wellbeing

Website - www.youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/

#### Covibook

Description - an interactive resource designed to support and reassure children aged 7 and under, designed to help children explain and draw the emotions that they might be experiencing during the pandemic.

Website - https://www.mindheart.co/descargables

#### Amaze

Description - information pack for parents about Covid-19

Website - www.amazesussex.org.uk/fags-about-the-coronavirus-for-parent-carers-of-children-withsend-brighton-hove/

Public Health England have produced an easy read version of their Advice on the coronavirus for places of education. You can download it here:

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2020-

03/V4%20Coronavirus%20advice%20for%20schools%20poster%20020302%20EDU15.0.4%20%282 %29.pdf



# Useful contacts and online resources

## Childline

0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

## **NSPCC Helpline**

0808 800 5000 Help@nspcc.org.uk

## Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender

0345 3 30 30 30 www.lgbt.foundation

## **Young Carers**

01942 679352 www.walyc.org.uk

## Frank

0300 123 6600 www.talktofrank.com

## **Mental Health Support**

## **Papyrus**

0800 068 4141 www.papyrus-uk.org

## Kooth (Counselling)

www.kooth.com

## **Young Minds**

www.youngminds.com

## **Suicide Bereavement Services**

0161 212 4919

www.shiningalightonsuicide.org.uk