



Dear Parent/Carer,

Distance Learning for Secondary Students

From Monday 27th April, distance learning will be set in the following way: Most subjects will set work on a weekly basis via a Show My Homework post. We are moving away from attempting to follow the normal school timetable as many families have fed back that this presents too many difficulties and have found this too stressful. The amount of work set will be reduced and there will be no expectation or requirement that children are logged on, looking at work for a particular subject, at any particular time. We will leave it to families to plan the best times and ways of working for their children.

In addition, each subject will identify a piece of work on a significant piece of learning (**a compulsory assessed task**) that they will ask children to submit for feedback. Our expectation is that all children will be able to complete this work by the deadline set. This will mean we can continue to see how children are progressing and offer further advice about next steps without, I hope, overwhelming children with a large amount of work we have to submit.

There will also be **enrichment tasks** for each subject. This is a list of never-ending tasks for students who wish to do extra to the above. These tasks need no submission or evidence of completion but are there for those who wish to access them. When the school fully reopens, we will invite students to bring all of their enrichment work in with them (or look at evidence online) and will issue rewards and prizes to recognise student's efforts.

A distance learning overview is available for each year group, so that families can see 'at a glance' the expected work for each subject. The compulsory assessed tasks and the distance learning overview will not always be set on Show My Homework but can be found on the distance learning area of our website from Monday 27th April 2020.

Our staff team are passionate that **our students do not fall behind students in other schools**. We therefore are asking that all students do their very best during this distance learning period of time. Of course, we hope that all children complete the compulsory tasks we set and will be checking regularly that students are ok or if they need any help. Tutors have sent every student a survey to complete via ShowmyHomework. We would like this completing early this week so that we can assess how students are feeling and their ability to access work at this challenging time.

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We believe that parents / carers know what their children need best and are best placed to judge how to balance the work available with their other needs. If we do see that some children have not completed these tasks we will make contact home, and that will be only to ask if there is anything else we can do to support families. We ask that families continue to provide feedback and get in touch with us if there if you need help with distance learning.

There are a range of ways we can support you:

If your child has a **question about their school work**, they can message their teacher directly through [ShowMyHomework](#). This is the safest platform to protect your children online.

If you are having **difficulties with ICT** and would like to order paper based resources, or would like to speak to a member of staff, please email office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk

or phone [0116 278 0232](tel:01162780232). Please leave your child's full name and which member of staff you wish to speak to.

If you are experiencing difficulties with **Free School Meal Vouchers**, please email; fsm@tgacademy.org.uk

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may now be eligible for Free School Meals, please call Leicester City Council on 0116 454 1009 (Option 3) to register. You can also register for frees school meals on the government website <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Please monitor our website <https://www.samworth.tgacademy.org.uk/> and follow us on twitter [@TGSAPrincipal](https://twitter.com/TGSAPrincipal) for the latest news from TGSA.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for the support you have given to the children and to us at TGSA. We understand that this is incredibly challenging and stressful time. We are here to support, if you need help, please do not hesitate to contact us using the appropriate method above

Yours sincerely

Mr Alan Wilkinson (Principal)

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