



Diss High School

Headteacher: Dr J Hunt

Tuesday 19th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, many thanks for your support and effort in keeping our students online and learning this lockdown. Staff have been really impressed with the mature attitudes that students have shown in getting to grips with virtual learning over the past two weeks and the patience that students, parents and staff have all shown in tackling any, inevitable, ICT glitches.

Now that everybody is in a new routine with online learning, we would like to make a few additions to the lockdown timetable. Every student's new lockdown timetable, along with an accompanying booklet with more information and access codes for new timetabled sessions will be available in the 'Covid-19' lockdown learning section of the school website. These additions include:

- Enrichment time – Departments have set up new Google Classrooms with challenges and activities that students can participate in to develop their knowledge and enjoyment of a specific subject that they may not otherwise have had time to do in the classroom;
- Reflection time – Inevitably, adapting to lockdown life and the increased demands of online learning is going to be difficult. During these timetabled sessions, students can complete a range of tasks suggested in the accompanying booklet. These range from improving pieces of work, to mindfulness activities.
- Cultural time – Each year group need to join their relevant Google Classroom and work through a range of activities linked to different cultures and religions.
- Future Aspirations – What better time than now to get thinking about future goals and aspirations. Students will be directed by their tutors to activities to be completed during these sessions (at KS3) or given a range of opportunities to explore via Google Classroom at KS4.
- An additional hour for Options in Year 11 has also been added to the Year 11 timetable. Teachers will direct students as to how best to use this time.

As a reminder, work will be set by teachers and handed in by students through the following channels:

- timetabled 'live' lessons with a teacher via Microsoft Teams;
- uploaded video file lessons from a subject teacher on Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams;
- written notes and instructions on Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams.

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In addition to this, tutors and Heads of Year will also keep in touch via a tutor group Google Classroom and individually via e-mail or a phone call home.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate in getting in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Miss V Pittman
Deputy Headteacher

Miss S Johnson
Assistant Headteacher (Director of English)

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