



Beths Grammar School

an 11-18 selective school with academy status

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Dear Parents and Carers of Year 7 students

School Closure Expectations for Year 7

Due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus COVID-19 we find ourselves in the unusual position where students are now expected to work remotely from home in order to continue with their learning and study. As a school we have taken every step to ensure that your son's learning will still be able to take place. Your son's classroom teachers will be setting work for students and checking the online resources to ensure that learning is still taking place. This work is compulsory and it is therefore important that we all work together to ensure that students are actively engaging with the work set. I realise that some students may feel overwhelmed by these different expectations and some may feel that they struggle to keep up with the amount of work set, but the important factor is that students remain engaged in their learning; if they cannot complete it all in the time given or do not understand what is expected, they should make sure that they contact their teachers and let them know.

What does remote learning and working from home look like for a Year 7 student?

Please refer to the advice below for support on what exactly working remotely from home should look like for your son:

- **Check Show My Homework and Fronter on a daily basis.** Teachers will be giving instructions to students on what work they should be completing. Some staff may ask your son to send them a copy of their work and will specify how this can be done – either via school email which is accessed through Fronter or via the Show My Homework platform directly. Not all work will need to be submitted to the teacher but students should try to complete all work where possible. We do expect students to keep their brains working but also don't expect them to overwork themselves.
- **Refer to the school website.** Each department has provided an outline of information on the website: there are also links to useful online learning sites that your son can access to support his learning.
- Use **YouTube for taught lessons.** Some videos can be excellent (particularly for the core subjects). Simply type in the name of the subject you wish to study.
- **Wider reading.** Students should ensure that they spend time reading in order to maintain and further their literacy skills. I would encourage all Year 7 students to continue with their 25 Book Challenge (which we may need to change to 50 books for this year!)

Keeping Children Safe and Wellbeing

The new government guidance issued yesterday is very clear and instructs families to stay at home. While social media will be very important in allowing students to communicate with one another, it is equally important that we all take care of our wellbeing and mental health at this time. We would encourage students to spend time in the garden (where possible) or take part in the various free online exercise activities available. In addition, our school website has links on the wellbeing page to help

support student wellbeing during this time. I have put a few links to useful websites and a useful daily activity challenge up onto the Show My Homework noticeboard, so please take a look at that for ideas and information. I will update the noticeboard every few days and will share as many useful ideas as I can there!

Keeping in contact with the school

During this time we will be keeping in regular contact with parents about developments in this ongoing situation. We ask that you continue to check emails regularly. As always, you are welcome to contact your son's Form Tutor and myself at any time regarding any pastoral-related questions you may have. If queries are subject specific then please direct them to the class teacher. Email addresses can be found on the school website.

The most crucial factor to consider at the present time is that you and your family are well. Of course, keeping your children engaged in their learning is very important but so is spending time with your family. Remember to take breaks during the day; play games together; talk to each other as much as possible and try to see the positives of having so much time together.

Many thanks for all your support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Amin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small star above the letter 'i' in "Amin".

Mrs A Amin
Head of Year 7