

8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: YEAR 7 – 9 HOME LEARNING**

We are writing with an update regarding some changes that we are making to our home learning provision in Years 7 to 9. If you also have a child in Year 10, please be reassured that further information will be sent out mid-week to confirm our plans for wider re-opening of the school for these students.

Thank you to all students who have been so working hard at home since the lockdown started. Engagement levels with the home learning programme have been high so far, and we would really like as many students as possible completing their work regularly so that they can maintain their knowledge and skills, and get feedback from their teachers on their work.

We are going to be slightly changing some aspects of the home learning delivery from today. The main motivation for these changes is to make learning more effective and engaging for students. These changes have been made in response to what students have told us work better for them when they responded to the survey at the end of Term 4. We are now aware that there are some high-quality resources that have been endorsed by the government and published online and we are keen for our students to benefit from these where relevant. With this in mind, we will be moving towards using some content from Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize, as well as continuing to use Hegarty Maths. Our students also told us that they prefer a personal approach, with recognisable voices, and for that reason, each session will start with a voiced PowerPoint, created by a teacher from Corby Technical School.

All work will continue to be set on a Monday morning and deadlines for assignments set for Friday at 4pm. This is to enable students to have the flexibility to access the learning when it is convenient for them to do so. However, we have now introduced a suggested timetable for each year group to help students to space out their learning. We also hope this will be useful for you in supporting your child throughout the week. We will continue to monitor the learning taking place using either a self-marking quiz that students will get instant feedback on, or an assignment for which teachers will provide individual feedback.

If you would like to see the timetable or the curriculum plans for each subject, please see the home learning page of the website, and select the page relating to your child's year group, [Year 7](#), [Year 8](#) or [Year 9](#). On the [Online learning](#) section, you will also find a video that explains the new format of the learning in more detail, as well as a short video that provides tips on how to use the Oak National Academy website. Students will find these videos on their 'Tutor Group Team', but we also felt that parents/carers would find it helpful to view those.

We would like to reassure you that alongside your child's academic progress, their wellbeing continues to be a priority for us. We are continuing to publish our newsletter, Snapshot, each week and as well as this, we have been offering tutor times online and a whole school assembly posted in Microsoft Teams in order to help students feel connected to the school community. For more information on all of these aspects of our provision, please see the [wellbeing page](#) in the home learning section of the website.

If you have any queries about the new approach or require any support with home learning, please email: [homelearning@corbytechnicalschool.org](mailto:homelearning@corbytechnicalschool.org) and our home learning team will support you with this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Reynolds', written in a cursive style.

Angela Reynolds  
Principal