

20 January 2021

Dear parent/carers

Enrichment Opportunities during Remote Learning

I am writing to thank you for your support with our online learning offer over the first weeks of this half-term. We have been so impressed with the high levels of attendance and engagement in our Live Lessons, with approximately 95% attendance at our Live Lessons so far. This is incredibly high, well above national trends and a testament to your support with learning at home.

We are, however, always looking to improve our approach, respond to feedback and ensure that your child is provided with wide-ranging opportunities. As we progress through this half-term, we have planned a series of events for students in Y7-Y10 to ensure that:

- Students have a wider variety of learning opportunities during Live Lessons and have access to new and exciting experiences
- Screen time is reduced at appropriate times to support student well-being
- We are fulfilling our commitment to enrichment and cultural opportunity.

As part of this, you will see attached a copy of our Cultural Capital Calendar. This calendar will show you on which days your child will have a lesson that is different to normal. These will still take place at normal times, but our Faculty Leaders have planned special events, linked closely to the curriculum, that will act as enrichment lessons. You can use this to look ahead and explore the different opportunities that your child will have access to, alongside our current offer, over the next few weeks.

Submission of Work

We are very proud of the overwhelming majority of students who are consistently logging into their Live Lessons and engaging with their teachers every day. However, just as important as this, is helping our students to submit work to their teachers each lesson. Just like in face-to-face lessons in the Academy, students are expected to complete key pieces of work that are returned to their teacher for two reasons:

- So that we can provide consistent and meaningful feedback
- So that we can assess understanding and carefully plan for future lessons.

Now, more than ever, we expect your child to submit work to us regularly, so that we can properly check the progress that they are making. We have made it easier for your child to do this, by using the Assignments feature in Microsoft Teams. To find out how to use this, you can watch Home Learning Video 5 with your child, which can be found here:

<https://www.dukeries.atrust.org.uk/students/home-learning/>

Parental Feedback:

This week, we are contacting families to take feedback on your experience of our Remote Learning offer. We have been so pleased to receive lots of positive emails and messages from parents and students, but we recognise that it is our job to keep finding ways to do better.

You may receive a call from us this week asking for your views. We welcome this feedback and will use it to improve our Remote Learning strategy. If you would like to share any feedback directly, please do not hesitate to phone the Academy office, or email me directly: m.brett@dukeries.atrust.org.uk.

Once again, thank you for your support during this time, and I look forward to more excellent Remote Learning taking place in the coming weeks.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Brett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'M' and a clear 'Brett'.

Mr M Brett
Assistant Principal