

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you and your loved ones are well and staying safe.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continuous support during these uncertain times and be rest assured that as a school, we are working hard to try and meet the needs of all our students through compassion and care.

'Learning to Learn from Home' remotely is certainly a very new experience for many of us and for our students to experience. We are aware that many students will face difficult challenges in the current climate and would like to reassure you that we are doing our upmost in planning for their future to ensure our students are not disadvantaged with their next steps within the world of education or work.

During these uncertain times we want to ensure we are providing every opportunity for your son/daughter to continue their learning and provide support and guidance where we can. For our Year 12 students we want to ensure we are providing opportunities for their learning to continue but also begin to introduce and prepare them for Post 19 options journeys.

Routines

We have put together a **suggestion of a timetable** that may support your son/daughter with organising their day. The subjects listed are just suggestions, your son/daughter may want to substitute the subjects for others that are more key to them.

We are hoping that this timetable will give some routine, a sense of normality and a feeling of still being connected as a community. The rest of their day is for family, for physical activity, for mindfulness activities or acts of kindness.

UCAS

Where possible it is important that students continue to access lessons and resources communicating with their subject teachers or sixth form team for support and guidance. Mrs Williams has emailed all Year 12 Students with an introduction to the UCAS Process. Even if your son/daughter is not planning on attending University this will support the application process for Apprenticeships and, also job applications, therefore this process should still be followed by all Year 12 students.

Unifrog

This is an excellent website to browse and learn more about the different career pathways and opportunities available, with activities to help prepare students for their next steps. By accessing UniFrog students can:

- Complete free online courses found in the 'MOOC' section -a wide range of courses are available based on interests and age.
- Create a personality and interests' profile.
- Learn more about core competencies employers are looking for and record how they have met each competency.
- Use the CV tool available, to review and update their CV.

Online Learning Platforms

In addition, we have also attached a list of a wide range of different online learning platforms for your son/daughter to access, to help enhance and minimise knowledge and gaps.

Please ensure steps are taken to safeguard your child learning safely online, the following link has some advice:

<https://www.westgate.slough.sch.uk/page/?title=Learning+Safely+Online&pid=443>

As a school we are continuously looking into 'Learning to Learn from Home' and how we can support our families. We are currently developing a new area on our website dedicated to 'Learning to Learn from Home' which we will continuously update on a regular basis, the following resources are available for your households and son/daughter to use:

- An example of a Year 12 'Learning to Learn from Home' student timetable
- A blank editable 'Learning to Learn from Home' student timetable

- Passport to Success: Fly around the world remotely developing 'Study Skills'
- #Coping young person's guide
- #Coping 5 ways to wellbeing
- Online Learning Platforms*
- Top Tips for dealing with anxiety
- 60 Day Wellbeing Challenge for families
- Top Tips for positive wellbeing
- Stay Active, Relax & Distract Wellbeing Pack

**Currently under construction on our website*

We know our Year 12s are trying their very best to navigate through a new way of communication, home learning as well as thinking about their next steps. We would like to reassure you #TeamWestgate are here to support and if your son/daughter is experiencing difficulties, we would like for them to communicate this in the first instance with their tutor and then the Head of Sixth form if further support is required.

We are all on a learning curve with remote learning, please remember, you are all doing an extraordinary job in extraordinary times. We need to keep working together to make the best of a difficult situation.

We want to as a school ensure we provide you with support where possible; if your son/daughter needs any guidance including their Post 19 options please do not hesitate to contact us.

We appreciate your continued support, we are missing our students and send you our very best wishes, keep strong, stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Sandhu
Assistant Headteacher