



# To aspire, endeavour and thrive together

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

I am writing with a number of updates on different issues and there should be something for all of our families in this letter, so please find a few minutes to read it through and talk with your children about its contents.

## Parent and Student survey feedback

We are receiving really positive and supportive feedback from many of our families about remote learning. Please see below a summary of the feedback from our recent parent and student surveys, along with key actions we are taking across the whole school.

Strengths	Areas for development
<p>72% of parents believe we set the right amount of work            85% believe it is clear and well-structured            85% of parents think that the quality of remote education has improved since Spring/Summer/Autumn            75% of students think it has improved            90% agree that video lessons support their child's learning, 83% of students feel the same</p>	<p>25% of parents don't feel that their child's engagement in remote learning has improved            40% of parents state that their child is not completing 5 hours of learning a day            45% of students feel they are getting too much work            46% of students do not follow a timetable at home            20% of students are not completing work across the full curriculum</p>
<p><i>Some comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thanks for the support</li> <li>- You are doing a great job</li> <li>- I'm happy with the support</li> <li>- I think the school has improved and the contact with me has been great this time</li> <li>- We think you are doing your very best in providing informative emails and links to support parents.</li> <li>- Just continue with the current set up you are all doing a fantastic job</li> <li>- I really like the online registration and tutorial. This important interaction was missing. Well done for that.</li> <li>- The school is doing a great job of communicating and reassuring parents</li> </ul>	<p><i>Some requests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate work for SEND students</li> <li>- Greater clarity/consistency in scheduling and setting deadlines</li> <li>- Too much work – focus on quality rather than quantity</li> <li>- Quicker responses from teachers</li> <li>- Focus on wellbeing as well as learning</li> <li>- Live sessions</li> </ul>



## Actions

- Teaching staff will all set a 7 day deadline for all students when setting work (7 days from the date posted to the deadline for completion)
- Further training has been provided on scaffolding work for students with specific learning needs
- A range of feedback methods continues to be used and explore eg. Mote (verbal recorded feedback)
- Welfare calls and virtual registration time are used to support students in setting daily and weekly timetables, checklists and managing their time
- All students have received updated guidance on using Google Classroom via tutors
- All lessons are chunked with a balance between instruction and independent tasks, ensuring all lessons are achievable within the allocated hour

Our staff are working tirelessly to continually improve the quality and levels of engagement of the work they are sharing for students and I'm delighted that our continual review and evaluation is having positive results for the majority of families. We always welcome feedback on how we are doing so please let us know if there are areas where we can improve further.

## Support with Google Classroom

Here is our parents' video (also available on our website):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jOH3r6ttpu24dNCo0cVJdm-9ZmR4sgFI/view>

And here is our guide for students (this is also on tutor group Google Classrooms):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11NYvOWIqM3HaeUPyCw819NNHluMV5dqf/view?usp=sharing>

## Live subject sessions

These have been taking place across all year groups in the last 2 weeks and the provision will be extended after half term. In core subjects, students will be asked to attend one live session per week, and for non-core subjects, this will be one per fortnight. Usually, these will take place in one of the timetabled lessons for that subject. On some occasions, however, a whole year group may be invited to attend a lesson and this may not occur when your child would normally have that subject. They will receive at least a week's notice of live lessons and therefore will be able to plan their weekly and daily timetables around this so that they can fit in all of their subjects.

## Live registration sessions

These have been a huge success so far. Staff and students have been delighted to interact with others, quiz, chat, discuss current affairs and even share their pets online!



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A reminder of the schedule below. Login details are posted on students' Google Classroom every morning prior to the sessions. **All sessions start at 8.45am.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7		Y	Y		Y
Year 8	Y		Y		Y
Year 9	Y		Y	Y	
Year 10	Y	Y		Y	
Year 11	Y		Y		Y

## Live Assemblies

Throughout next week all year groups will be holding their live reward assemblies where we celebrate the excellent work so many of our students have excelled in during this half term. An invitation will be sent to your child/ren on Google Classroom with details of when they will take place.

## Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day. There are a number of resources for parents to support their children in staying safe online:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/i-am-parent-or-carer>

Attached is a letter which details some events for parents taking place next week.

## Digital Detox Day

We are really excited to announce our first screen-free day on **Friday 26th February**. We will be offering students in all year groups the opportunity to select 5 off-grid activities to take part in during the day, all aimed at developing emotional and physical wellbeing, creativity and enjoyment. Students will be able to explore and nurture new and existing passions across a range of areas, from Art to Food to Sport to Meditation, Nature, Dance, community projects and so much more. We really hope that your children will benefit from a day away from their screens and a chance to be inspired and relaxed. Details of the activities will follow.



## **Parents' appointments for Y7, 9, 10 and 11 students**

In order to accommodate the demand for parents' evening appointments we have opened up Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February during the day for parents to make appointments with teachers who they have not managed to speak with yet. Appointments will be available from 8:45 to 3:00 for parents of Year 7, 9,10 and 11. Initially we will limit appointments to six per student, to ensure that all parents have an opportunity to speak to a teacher. If the demand allows we will increase the limit to enable all meetings to take place. Please follow the instructions on our web page <https://www.glossopdale.school/Parents-Evenings/>

## **Next live Q&A**

Our live online sessions for parents and students have been invaluable in helping us to help you during this period of remote education. We will hold another session on Tuesday 23rd February at 5pm. If you have a question that you would like answering in the session, please submit it here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SXla1PWHXoC6SVqYQvmAyYK7DKo3MfyIKfjLC8hVy3M/edit>

Once again, thank you all for your continued support at this time. If you have any questions or feedback, please email [info@glossopdale.school](mailto:info@glossopdale.school).

Best wishes,  
Debbie McGloin