



THE  
Beaulieu Park  
SCHOOL

Learning today, leading tomorrow

The Beaulieu Park School  
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Principal: Mr J Donaldson BA (Hons), PGCE, PGDip, NPQH, F.R.S.A.  
Head of Primary School: Ms K Koller BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH  
Head of Secondary School: Mrs S Slater BSc (Hons), PGCE

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear students and families,

Our staff have been working extremely hard ensuring your lessons are the very best they can be for our first week of home learning. We have had some really great questions from you all, and many kind messages of how happy you are with the school work and that you are enjoying your learning activities.

Our staff would like to thank you as students for all the hard work you are doing by completing home learning and also give thanks to your family members for helping with your school work, doing their best to support learning and letting us know if any help is needed along the way. We are only too aware of the great difficulties our families are facing, trying to balance continuing working whilst providing home learning and in lots of cases, to more than one child across different year groups in different schools. Many of our staff are parents and do keep the pressures parents are all facing in mind when creating activities for home learning.

As we are all now aware, our school will remain closed until we receive the next update from the Government. As we are going to be closed for much longer than originally known, we have reviewed our home learning package and are going to be introducing some live learning lessons from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Lots of research has been conducted into remote learning which we have spent time reviewing to ensure the education we provide to our students at home is the very best it can be. The best remote learning takes place when there is a variety of activities for students to engage with, opportunities for students to make contact with staff, and opportunities for students to make contact with their friends.

We will be asking all students from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to stop following their individual timetables and follow their year group specific timetable until we break for half term on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. These timetables are available on the school website in the remote learning tab for secondary. Y7 will follow the same timetable and Y8 students will be split into two halves and follow the appropriate timetable, both year groups will follow a two-week timetable. If you do not give consent for your child to join these live lessons, please get in touch with the office. By joining live lessons, there are some important rules to follow and you can find these on our website.

Some lessons will involve independent tasks with clear instructions from their teachers set via SMHW as they are now; and some lessons will take place live through Microsoft Teams, where staff will deliver activities to students. If you live in a home that has parents and other children using the same technology, we have chosen Microsoft Teams because it is secure and safe, but also available on laptops, PCs, tablets, phones, Xbox and PlayStation devices.

A live lesson will not mean the teacher is on the screen for a full hour talking to the students, this is not effective in learning and this does not happen in school during normal lessons. Teachers will talk very little across a lesson here at school, they will explain the tasks and activities or engage students in class discussions, but the majority of the time is spent by students completing activities and the teacher providing help and assistance. In live lessons, teachers will welcome students and begin sharing their screen and explain activities to complete, questions to answer, things to read, extended writing activities etc. Teachers will be able to answer questions from students via the chat method and get instant responses from up to three teachers in one lesson.

If you are unable to join the live lesson, you will be able to watch the recording back at a later point in the day. You may choose as a family to reorder the lessons for the day and complete the SHMW lessons in the morning and watch the recordings back in the afternoon. For homes that have multiple people trying to access technology, our students just need to have their phone with the Teams app running and their exercise book and they can engage with learning.

There are some very clear rules and expectations for staff, family members and students when engaging with live learning and as mentioned above, they can be found on our website.

If you are approaching the end of your exercise book, do not worry, please use lined paper and keep the date on each paper and we will arrange your work when you return to school. We are not able to allow families to arrive to school to collect new exercise books as this is introducing other bubbles to the school bubble in a time of national lockdown.

As you know here at Beaulieu, one of our school rules is to try your best in all that you do. We only ask that over the rest of this half term, you do that for all of your subjects and if you ever get stuck, get in touch with your subject teacher or your tutor via Microsoft Teams chat (we will stop using the message function in SMHW from the 18th Jan). Staff will be able to respond within working hours and help you with your work or any worries. Students and family members, please rest assured there are no sanctions or detentions if you do not complete a piece of work, we just ask that you do your best and get in touch if you need help. When the school reopens, teachers and support staff will have a comprehensive plan (which we are already working on) to ensure students are back on track with their learning.

There is a selection of short videos to watch that will help you understand how to access your school email, the Teams area and how to log into any live lessons and find any recordings. If after you have watched these videos you are still stuck or have a problem, please email Mr Rooney at [brooney@beaulieuparkschool.com](mailto:brooney@beaulieuparkschool.com).

There will also be the opportunity for each tutor group to have an online social hangout which will be led by the Heads of House (and recorded). You will receive an invite in your Teams area so you will know how to join. These hangouts are not compulsory, but a chance for each tutor group to say hello to each other and ask any questions to the Head of House. If you have any worries at all, please do not wait for these hangouts, but get in touch with your Tutor or Head of House as soon as possible so we can help. These will happen each week until we reopen. Please see the timetable on the website (please note the timetable will be Tuesday to Friday next week but move to Monday to Thursday from the week after until the end of this half term).

Our Tutors have begun making welfare calls on a two-week cycle until we break for half term, this is a chance for us to say hello and see how everything is from the parent's perspective, we do need to make voice contact and so please ensure you answer calls (some may show as withheld numbers). If we are unable to make voice contact, we will have to complete socially distanced doorstep visits to make sure everyone is ok.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for information that may become relevant for support and ensure you are receiving our emails sent for information through our InTouch service.

Thank you again for all that you are doing in these strange and difficult times, remember when times are difficult or you are worried, get in touch with your Tutor or Head of House, try your best and take care of one another. We made it through lockdown in 2020 and we will get through this one, we can't wait to see you all again soon.

Yours faithfully



Sarah Slater  
Head of Secondary