



Knox Academy

Head Teacher **Susan Cook BEd(Hons) MEd SQH**

Pencaitland Road
Haddington
East Lothian
EH41 4DT

01620 823387
knoxacademy@knox.elcschool.org.uk
www.ka-net.org.uk

Friday 8 January 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

January 2021

First and foremost, Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope you managed to have some fun and relaxation during the festive break. I am sure you would agree with me in saying this is not the start we had wished for the New Year! However I know that we will work together, to provide the best support we can, to ensure our young people's progress during the forthcoming period of remote learning.

From the 7 January we have been providing in-school support for young people of key workers and also for our more vulnerable young people. As always, if your young person is attending school for the critical childcare, please do not send them in if they have any Covid-19 symptoms or if they have tested positive and instead ask them to self-isolate and [book a test](#). Any young people self-isolating due to another family member having tested positive should also not attend until their self-isolation period has finished.

On Monday 11 January remote learning will commence for all of our young people at Knox Academy until Friday 29 January 2021 (subject to review by the Scottish Government on 18 January).

During this period of time, **S1 and S2** will follow a set year group timetable (**see attached**), and **S3-S6** pupils will follow their current (individual) timetables, as has been the case since August. This will ensure that we can best support all of our young people with their learning. If your young person still requires a Chromebook to access this remote learning please contact Mr Illingworth ASAP at sillingworth@knox.elcschool.org.uk so we can arrange this.

Timetables will follow a normal week's timings. The expectation is that our young people engage with their timetable on Google Classroom, as best as possible, to ensure they keep pace with their learning in all of their subjects. There will be opportunities for Google Meets with their teachers and this will allow their teachers to answer questions and offer feedback to pupils/classes on their learning and next steps. We appreciate that remote learning is not as effective as face: face teaching but we will do our utmost to make it as good an experience for our young people as we can. Some teachers may also offer some live lessons.

If your young person wishes to use other resources to supplement their learning they will also find these useful : [E-sgoil – BGE \(S1-S3\)](#) and [Senior Phase](#) (Glow user name and password required – if your young person does not have this please email admin@knox.elcschool.org.uk) and E-sgoil [live webinars](#) ; [Scholar UK](#) (S4-S6), [SQA \(past papers\)](#); [SQA \(subject content to work through topics\)](#); [BBC Bitesize](#) and at [Oak National Academy](#) (some great resources for S1-S3 pupils). BBC2 TV is also doing programmes in the afternoon for secondary pupils.

Parents/carers may also find the [A Parent Club COVID-19](#) site useful in terms of support. This contains advice on working from home whilst caring for children, advice on helping children with remote and blended learning as well as links to advice and support resources for parents of children with additional support needs.

I would also like to stress that the health and wellbeing of our young people is paramount so this should be considered first and foremost when your young person is engaging in remote learning. It may be that following a structured timetabled day may not work for your young person, or your family, and therefore your young person/people should engage when appropriate to their needs and your circumstances.

If your young person needs support, be this from a learning point of view, or from a health and wellbeing point of view, please do contact their Pupil Support Team so we can support you and them with this:

Ms Adam/Mrs Clubb (Garleton) garleton@knox.elcschool.org.uk;

Mr Meekison/Mr Russell (Lammerlaw) lammerlaw@knox.elcschool.org.uk;

Mrs Doig/Mr Illingworth (Traprain) traprain@knox.elcschool.org.uk

The Virtual Parents' Evenings for S2, S4 and S5/6 will go ahead as planned and Mrs Clubb will be in touch with parents/carers and pupils regarding this. S5/6 takes place on 11 January, S4 on 21 January 2021 and S2 on 3 February. These will run from 5-7pm and use your young person's EduBuzz email to access the meetings with their teachers. If you need access to a Chromebook for this, please contact Mr Illingworth (see above).

As we have now entered a second lockdown we are awaiting further national and SQA guidance and therefore will be reviewing our approach to all Senior Phase assessments. As soon as I have any information about this I will let parents/carers and pupils know. Many subject staff will continue to use assessment as part of their teaching and learning approaches during remote learning and this will be used to advise young people on their next steps for learning (Senior Phase pupils) and to ensure progress is made.

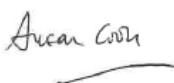
We know our young people will have been looking forward to returning to school and seeing their friends and teachers/school staff again and this will be incredibly hard for them. We will miss them too! However there is light at the end of the tunnel with the roll out of the vaccines and we know that there will be a time when we will come back together, at school, for face to face teaching and to enjoy learning together. Until this time we will do our very best to give our pupils the support and encouragement they need, as we have done previously, to help them through this challenging time.

If you do have any questions, please contact your young person's Pupil Support Leader in the first instance. We will also be emailing all our young people so they know arrangements for next week too.

If your young person tests positive for Covid-19 during this period of remote learning, this should be reported to covidinschools@eastlothian.gov.uk or if you do not have email, telephone: 01875 613921.

In the meantime, please continue to follow [FACTS](#) and stay at home so we can decrease our community transmission and get back to school as soon as possible.

Best wishes



Susan Cook