



For Students & Parents

Weekly

25-09-2020

FOCUS



Welcome to the latest issue of the weekly newsletter that aims to keep our communication lines open between home and college.



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

After the kind and uplifting messages from HoY from the last issue I would like to echo those comments. I have been especially impressed with the student's ability to adapt to the new routines and community areas. The staggered lesson times, sanitising before entering the classroom and one way systems are becoming more habitual. Students have now completed a fortnight so they have experienced all of their timetabled lessons and teachers. As a result, students should be getting

homework notifications through class charts. This work will extend and consolidate understanding. We have been working hard as a college to produce "catch up plans" to close the gap on missed knowledge and comprehension. To help this, students have been invited to Google Classrooms, a virtual area where resources, videos and materials can be accessed to help develop links and understanding. Faculties are also using knowledge organisers, which contain key vocabulary and concepts to fill gaps in understanding. These are aimed to use alongside teaching but also essential to recover previous units. These resources and other material are available to help support your son/ daughter. Faculties are able to provide revision guides but we were unable to collect the usual amount due to lockdown. If your son/ daughter has any course textbooks/ revision guides please could these be returned to the college? If they could be dropped off to reception or handed over to teachers if a sibling attends the college.

Students are reminded that there is no right of way across the car park at the Football Club. The club will pursue action against anyone using the land as a shortcut and involve the police in any abuse or vandalism

A reminder regarding facemasks and use of online learning platforms

With regard to face masks there are some crossover in circulation spaces. This is not deemed to be a risk factor by the DfE. However, we are strongly encouraging students to wear face coverings at these times. Our staff are all wearing them when moving around the site. Face coverings are **COMPULSORY** on the buses. Parents have alerted us to the fact that some students are not complying with the driver's instructions. Please can these two messages be reiterated at home then the changes can be embedded consistently and reduce anxiety.

If your child is isolating work can be found on Google Classroom. This platform was used over lockdown so students should be familiar with the process. Please encourage your child to access Google Classroom to complete work they are missing from their timetable each day. That way they will not fall behind when they return to school. Teachers will be using class chart to notify students (and parents) about their homework.

- Classcharts - Positive and negative behaviour, homework notifications
- Google Classroom - A platform where work can be uploaded.
- Teachers will ALWAYS notify students using classcharts, this could simply be a link to Google Classroom.

Mr J Stroud

Morrisons

Morrisons are requesting that students do not shop in the petrol station to buy drinks, sweets and snacks on the way home. Customers trying to pay for petrol are being held up. They should use the main store instead.

Whilst there have been no incidents of poor behaviour or theft, the store manager is also concerned that young people are not wearing masks in the store or keeping to the rule of 6.

We will be reinforcing this in school, but would welcome parental support and ask if reminders can also be given at home.

Free School Meals

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find below the current eligibility criteria for accessing Free School Meals for your child:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your circumstances have changed recently and you are now in receipt of any of these benefits, you may well be eligible to claim and we would strongly recommend you go to the following website to check your eligibility and find out more about how to apply:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Accessing Free School Meals for your child where you are eligible not only ensures they receive a full meal at school each day but also means the school will receive the Pupil Premium for your child, enabling us to support you financially and offer a range of support to your child

Letter from Public Health England

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible. One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested. Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:

1. a high temperature: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)

2. a new continuous cough: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours

3. a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal

- Your child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.

- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household

unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.

- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms. No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support. Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> It is vital for children's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,
Public Health England

Message from

Mrs Greener (HoY 7)

Dear year 7 Parents and Carers, many thanks for your continued support. By Wednesday's second lesson this week (period 2) your child or children will have completed a full two week timetable. So even though they have been here for 2 and a half weeks we did not start their usual timetable until Wednesday at 10 am. So a big well done for this. The big item on the table this week and next week are the CATs tests; even though they are called 'test,' it is more like puzzle solving than being tested. Believe it or not some students actually enjoy taking them!

Another well done to you and the students for getting School gateway, Google classroom and Class charts access sorted out. We all need to be willing to give technology a go these days, so many thanks for dealing so efficiently with this. If you have any issues with these access codes, then please contact Ms C. Cocker on extension 214 and she will deal with queries that come in. With each letter and communication I send, I will include the emails of all of the tutors for the year group and now the heads of faculty also. Please do feel free to contact the head of faculty directly if your child is needing information about a particular subject.

As we can't do a usual settling in evening this year, the year 7 team are providing settling in phone surgeries as an alternate option. These will be late afternoons after school the week before half term - more details to follow shortly.

Have a good weekend when it gets here.

Mrs Greener HOY 7

Year 7 Team Contact Details

Head of Year 7	Mrs J Greener	j.greener@tavistockcollege.org
Assistant Head of Year 7	Mrs N Ingleby	n.ingleby@tavistockcollege.org
Y7 Admin	Ms C Cocker	c.cocker@tavistockcollege.org
7B	Mrs J Gjoka Mrs K Mooney	j.gjoka@tavistockcollege.org k.mooney@tavistockcollege.org
7BA	Miss B Gibbons Mrs L Palmer	b.gibbons@tavistockcollege.org l.palmer@tavistockcollege.org
7D	Mr S Hulbert	s.hulbert@tavistockcollege.org
7F	Ms D Pengelly Mrs J Madeley	d.pengelly@tavistockcollege.org j.madeley@tavistockcollege.org
7FA	Mr A Wilson	a.wilson@tavistockcollege.org
7G	Mrs S Young	s.young@tavistockcollege.org
7GA	Miss H Holbourn	h.holbourn@tavistockcollege.org
7T	Mrs R Harry- Chudleigh	r.harry-chudleigh@ tavistockcollege.org

Head of Faculty Contact Details

Creative Arts	Mrs E Pearson	e.pearson@tavistockcollege.org
English	Mrs E Herod	e.herod@tavistockcollege.org
Humanities	Mrs S Holt	s.holt@tavistockcollege.org
Maths	Mr M Hillman	m.hillman@tavistockcollege.org
Modern Languages	Mrs H Cowie	h.cowie@tavistockcollege.org
PE	Mr S Hulbert	s.hulbert@tavistockcollege.org
Science	Mr M Harris	mi.harris@tavistockcollege.org
Technology/ Computing	Mr M Harris	mi.harris@tavistockcollege.org
Social Studies	Mrs J Tosdevin	j.tosdevin@tavistockcollege.org

Living Life to The Full at Tavistock College

Living Life to The Full, our CBT programme designed to help our young people through challenging periods is soon to re-launch in a new on-line format. The programme will also be supported by our 6th form Mental Health ambassadors who will begin mentoring some of our younger students who might be struggling with the pressures of day to day life. This programme has already been inspiring and helping the participants at Tavistock College.

Cognitive behavioural therapy is used in order to help our young people understand some of the different emotions that they are often feeling but might struggle to understand. Giving help and advice around; activity levels, diet and simple ideas to improve mood and self confidence has previously supported many of our students at Tavistock College. Stress and low mood is of course common in young people and the help and support offered through previous Living Life to The Full programmes has proved very effective.

Sessions will be delivered weekly, on-line from the end of October. They also include options for participant activities/feedback which is integral to success.

The course is delivered over 6 sessions which include;

- 'Understanding your feelings'.
- 'Doing things that make you feel better'.
- 'Looking at things differently'.
- 'Building Inner Confidence'.
- 'How to fix almost everything'.
- 'The Things you do that mess you up'.
- '1, 2, 3 Breathe'.
- '10 things you can do to feel happier straight away'.

Please email n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org with your expression of interest for your child to participate, or to find out more about the programme.

Message from Art

A polite reminder that students should be bringing equipment for art and textiles. this would be colouring pencils and pens.

Family Support

Barnados

See Hear Respond by Barnados.

www.barnados.org.uk/see-hear-respond

See Hear Respond is a partnership to help children, young people and families cope with the Covid-19 crisis.

Free Solihull online courses

- Understanding your baby
- Understanding your child
- Understanding your teenagers' brain

Link to the courses www.inourplace.co.uk access code TAMAR.

Support for parents

www.parent-talk.org.uk/devon



TAVISTOCK COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

WE'RE STILL HERE, WAITING TO WELCOME YOU TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL

1ST OCTOBER

**VIRTUAL
PROSPECTUS
& VIRTUAL
TOUR DROP**

VIEW ANYTIME ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.TAVISTOCKCOLLEGE.ORG
AND VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

**OPEN DAY
14TH OCTOBER**

STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

TO BOOK PLEASE TELEPHONE

CHANTELLE COCKER ON

01822 614231 EXT. 214

MAXIMUM 1 ADULT PER FAMILY



Tavistock COLLEGE