



For Students & Parents

# Weekly

02-10-2020

# 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

Learning is in full swing and our catch-up plans are being implemented to close the gaps on missed knowledge. These catch-up plans link academic and pastoral strategies for personalisation to each student. As a result learners are being challenged and showing high levels of productivity in lessons. They are responding to feedback both verbal, teacher and peer to show progress and understanding. To support all learners, it is our aim that all students will be invited to a google

classroom for their subjects. I urge parents and carers to have a conversation about homework and Google classroom to ensure they have accepted the invite from their teachers. That way they can access lessons and resources to support, consolidation and extend their understanding. The engagement has been high and the behaviour has been great for a very large number of students. This mature and courteous behaviour is extended around the college site where students have been asked to wait for teachers and take pride in their community areas.. We praise these students who are role models within our college. However, there is a very small number of students who are impacting the learning of other students. The RTL system is working well but to include another deterrent we have decided to bring back detentions.

## Detention system

This will only be used on rare occasions as an upscaled event for students not following rules and impacting the learning of other students. This will include failing RTL.

- These will be on a Tuesday and Thursday night only. This is due to late buses.
- Detentions will be on hour long and take place in the hall to meet social distance rules and our risk assessment.
- Detention staff will be on a rota
- Parents and Carers will be notified of an after school detention through class charts notification/ school communications.
- The detention will occur on the next Tuesday or Thursday unless it was issued on a detention day.

## Mobile phones

We have slightly amended our mobile phone policy to take into account no visitors on site. So parents or carers cannot collect mobile phones or headphones if they have been confiscated by a member of staff. They are still banned in lessons and between lessons, unless instructed by the teacher. If misused they will be removed and handed in to reception. The change will be that the student can collect their device at the end of the day.

## Important reminders

### Facemasks

In light of 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. Some 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.

### Online learning

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.

### Revision guides and books

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.

Mr J Stroud

## Year 7 Flu Vaccinations

The Year 7 Flu vaccinations are due to take place on 7th October. These will follow our risk assessment. We advise that parents should have signed the online form to consent to the vaccination.

This is the link <https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

## Message from Mrs Greener (Head of Year 7)

Dear Parents and carers of year 7 students, as always I'd like to begin by thanking you for your support of the college and your contact with teachers and tutors and myself.

The year sevens are beginning to feel more settled and as a result we are seeing progress as a result of their hard work in lessons and developmental processes in tutor time. We have a set tutor routine that does vary a little depending on local issues arising.

One of those issues this week has been the use of social media making life unhappy for a few students in the year group. Because of this I am including a run down of the age restrictions for some of the social media platforms and a link to a useful internet site of the UK safer internet centre.

'WhatsApp have just announced a change to their terms and conditions for users based in Europe. Users will now need to be 16 to use WhatsApp.

Nearly all other social media services require users to be at least 13 years of age to access and use their services. This includes Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Musical.ly and Skype.

Whilst there is no age restriction for watching videos on YouTube, users need to be 13 or older to have their own YouTube account (enabling them to subscribe to other channels, like videos, post comments, share their own content and flag inappropriate content).'

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/age-restrictions-social-media-services#:~:text=The%20COPPA%20law%20or%20Children's,of%2013%20without%20parental%20permission>

Thank you for your time reading this and I hope you find the information helpful.

Hoping you have a nice weekend

## Logo competition

# Well-being at Tavistock College

## Year 7 LOGO competition

Mental health and well-being are very important to us here.

If you have the skills to design a 'well-being' logo for Tavistock College this competition is for you!

The winning design will be used on our WEBSITE!

Entries from Year 7 should be e-mailed to [n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org](mailto:n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org) by 22 October 2020

Please send your entry as a jpeg file

GOOD LUCK!

## Vote for Connor

Connor Norman in Y10 has made it to the finals of a short film competition. Voting has now started, and I know he'd be immensely grateful for your support.

Please follow this link

<https://o-region.co.uk/roughcut2020-films/>

## Headphones

In the current situation we are unable to share headphones among students in computer rooms, we recommend that you have a root around in 'that' drawer for an old pair of earbuds or purchase a pair of cheap (pound shop) earbuds to put in their pencil cases for situations where watching a video or listening to a podcast come up. Please note wireless/bluetooth headphones will not work on computers.

## Red and Black Football club

Please can I remind you that parking is not allowed at the Red and Black club. This is private land and by parents parking there to collect their children it means that they are unable to take bookings at that time. The football club will take action against those who do not comply. If there is a medical reason why students need collecting from school you can apply for a permit to come on to the school site. This can be arranged with your child's head of year.

## Family Support

### Back To School After Lockdown

Tips From An NHS Psychologist

<https://www.mytutor.co.uk/blog/back-to-school-after-lockdown-tips-from-an-nhs-psychologist/>

### Barnados

See Hear Respond by Barnados.

[www.barnados.org.uk/see-hear-respond](http://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](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)  
access code TAMAR.

### Support for parents

[www.parent-talk.org.uk/devon](http://www.parent-talk.org.uk/devon)

## Duke of Edinburgh award at Tavistock College.

Completing their DofE award is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests, have fun and boost their mental and physical health. Essential skills will be gained and a highly respected award will be achieved that can enhance both their CV and job prospects.

DofE programmes can be done safely and in line with social distancing and Government guidelines – with all the usual benefits, experiences and memories.

Sign up will be very soon! If your child has already enrolled previously we will be in touch soon with details about progressing to the silver/gold awards.

If your child in year 9 and you would like more information about enrollment onto the bronze award please email ([n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org](mailto:n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org)) to register your interest and to receive further details.

For more information about this opportunity please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfAS2rLdJKg&list=PLJwqW7XmD1vIQzY07M-36SXamlwLO2TC&index=8>

## West Devon Mayoral Awards

Congratulations to the Tavistock College Year 7 Tree Team on achieving a Mayors Green Award certificate for their contribution to the Borough of West Devon.

The Y7 tutor group led by teacher Jane Seymour has worked in partnership with The Greenwood Group, a group of local volunteers to try to not only preserve the trees on the school site, but to plant more trees to sequester CO2 from the atmosphere to counter balance the increase into the atmosphere from increased car usage and transport resulting from new buildings and homes in the town.

In total 134 saplings have been planted along with plans to plant bog plants in areas too wet for trees.

## Virtual Prospectus

This goes live on Thursday 1st October morning - Please see our facebook page.



# 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](http://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

