



For Students & Parents

# Weekly

22-01-2021

# FOCUS

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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

## Watesy Wednesday Workshop

We are delighted to offer online support with remote learning from our resident expert. These workshops will happen every Wednesday with the inaugural session starting on 27/1/21 from 15:00-16:00 (approximate finish). It will be conducted through Google Meet so you will need a good internet connection. It will be recorded if you cannot make it. You should not join the session with your camera or microphone on but you will be able

to type questions in the chat function. We will collate questions and comments from the audience and address these in the following workshop. This is aimed at parents/carers who would like guidance with our online learning platforms such as Google (Classroom, Meet etc).

## Consultation on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021

On Friday, the government launched a joint consultation with Ofqual on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021. The consultation closes at 11:45pm on Friday 29 January. They want to hear the views of students who were due to take their exams, their parents and carers, their teachers, school and college leaders and others who have an interest, including further and higher education providers, and employers.

The Department for Education is putting trust in teachers and their judgement to determine grades. Grades will be based on teacher assessment, with teachers supported in making decisions with guidance and training from exam boards to ensure these are awarded fairly and consistently.

The consultation will consider the range of evidence teachers use to award a grade, which could include coursework, other forms of assessment and papers provided by exam boards, to support consistency and fairness across schools and colleges.

I urge you all to click on the link and submit your views.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021?utm\\_source=18%20January%202020%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021?utm_source=18%20January%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

We've had concerns and reports about some children sleeping over, going to each others' homes after school etc. A polite reminder to all families that the national lockdown should be dramatically curtailing children's social activities and that sleepovers, play dates, home visits and other such social activities etc are forbidden under the lockdown regulations unless the participants are from the same familial or childcare bubbles. "You must stay at home. The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives. You should follow this guidance immediately. [This is the law.](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home)"

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

James Stroud

## Remote Learning

If you or your partner is a critical worker, or if your child is classed as vulnerable, then the school will remain open

The remote learning engagement has been excellent, with students logging in promptly for live lessons and asking meaningful questions through the chat function. Pupils need to ensure their google meet avatars are appropriate for the classroom and I would suggest removing the avatar leaving their initials as default.

From feedback and conversation with parents I would like to draw your attention to the following tips.

- All work will be on Google Classroom not class charts. Think of the Google classroom as their actual timetabled lesson where the teacher will be with resources for learning.
- Work should be submitted on Google classroom, this is preferably a shared document however the teacher will specify how they want it submitted in the task. Once submitted the teacher has a record and can offer feedback, marks and then return it back for improvement.
- Teachers will issue a deadline for that work to be completed by. This will allow the students to organise their time with the "To Do" function in google classroom.
- Students need to login to their email account using their ...@tavistockcollege.org
- Teachers will issue praise points for completion of home learning and notify parents if it hasn't been completed purely from a supportive not punitive perspective.
- We are looking at running an online troubleshooting session to support parents and students with accessing our online learning platforms.
- If accessing Google meet from their phone they need to download the app.
- Accessing any "live" video conference students MUST turn off their camera and microphone before entering the "room"
- Will not be setting homework during this period. The remote learning set is one package.
- Teachers will be available for the whole lesson duration for support and feedback. Students just need to use the "chat" function or private message for support.

If you are worried about data to access remote learning Mr Ruse sent out a link (also in this newsletter) that allows some families to access free data and we still have a few chrome books that are available for students who have limited access.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your understanding and ongoing support in helping us to manage this unprecedented situation. Please continue to take care and to stay safe.

If students or yourselves need support then please contact the college where we can resolve any issues.

# Support with mobile data increases

In this challenging and difficult time the government has announced that they are committed to supporting the remote learning provision that schools are putting in place.

Schools, trusts and local authorities can therefore request mobile data increases for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit: Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile, Sky Mobile. Other providers may hopefully join the scheme at a later stage.

Given the criteria outlined above, if you feel that you would qualify for this assistance please complete the following form:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5vut65q>

If there are any difficulties with the above link please use this link instead:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=kG0HO7J4vUqeBclPjiicRptIKd4SORVDsPmsSqa661IUQ05YNFZINKMxSkMyS1dRNDdEU1FBSzdORyQIQCN0PWcu>

Please note the Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust is collating this information and liaising directly with the DfE and government for this assistance to be put in place. *Mr Ruse*

## Using Xbox or PlayStation to access Hwb

Accessing your remote learning. An alternative method of accessing remote learning during times of lockdown.

### Xbox

1. Plug a keyboard in to the Xbox USB slot
2. Go in to my games and apps
3. Find Microsoft Edge and select
4. Type in: Hwb and log in as you would at school
5. You can then access your work through Google Classroom or OneDrive and use key packages including;
  - Word
  - Teams
  - Excel
  - PowerPoint
  - Your emails
6. To move around you use the Xbox control or plug in a mouse

### PlayStation

1. Identify the PlayStation internet browser icon (it is www with dots around it)
2. Press the PlayStation logo on the controller
3. Go to the library and find options for games and applications
4. Go in to applications and you will find the internet browser
5. Type Hwb into the browser and log in as you would in school
6. You can then access your work through Google Classroom or OneDrive and use key packages including;
  - Word
  - Teams
  - Excel
  - PowerPoint
  - Your emails

## Tavistock Library

We reopened again on Monday 18th January to provide a contactless collection service, where books and DVDs can be reserved free of charge by library members on the phone (01822) 612218, by email to [tavistock.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:tavistock.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk); and online from the stock in any of Devon's libraries <https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/catalogue>. When items arrive, we contact people by their preferred method - phone or email, and arrange a time for them to collect. This is possible during the day but also early evening and Saturdays as usual. We can select books from our stock on subjects or by particular authors for collection if requested.

In addition, we are able to provide essential public pc access which is also contactless. We recognise that many people do not have devices at home to access digital information and services. Use of these services are by appointment, to avoid queuing, which can be made by phone, email or Facebook messenger.

We publish information, events and activities daily on our Facebook page <https://en-gb.facebook.com/TavistockLibrary/>. The online library of downloadable books, audiobooks and magazines now includes newspapers from a range of places including those in European languages <https://devon.rbdigitalglobal.com/service-details/newspapers-group/newspapers>.

All this is available as a member of Devon Libraries which is free to join to anyone at the school, including people who live in Cornwall.

If there are other ways in which we can support the staff and school community to work through lockdown, do contact me.

Best wishes Jan

Jan Horrell

Senior Library Supervisor (Tavistock, Moretonhampstead, Princetown and Chagford)

# Coping with lockdown 3

## coping with lockdown 3.0

We are all finding things tricky right now. Being isolated from friends and family can make these feelings even harder to cope with.

lots of us are worried about our loved ones

You are **NOT ALONE**

Anxiety is really high at the minute for a lot of people, even those who aren't usually anxious. **THIS IS OK!**

"I'm worried about my future"

### Young Minds

is a great place to check out if you are feeling worried, low, anxious or alone. There are some helpful links below but feel free to browse the whole site. Reach out, stay safe

**if you need urgent help**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/get-urgent-help/>

**Coronavirus mental health support**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/looking-after-yourself/coronavirus-and-mental-health/>

**for all types of mental health support**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/>

## Supporting your child during the Covid-19 pandemic

It's no secret that lockdown is hard for everyone, not just adults.

The amount of pressure this pandemic is putting on everyone's mental health is incalculable.

The good news is there is support available, you are not alone and there is no shame in seeking help

### Young Minds

is a fantastic place for young people to access help for all mental health worries. There are tools and information for caregivers too.

**For young people**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/looking-after-yourself/coronavirus-and-mental-health/>

**For caregivers**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/>



## PARENT + SUPPORT HUB

### Support Hub for Mental Health Caregivers

Now Offering Parental Minds Counselling

#### BESPOKE SUPPORT PLANS



Emotional support for parents/carers



Information on mental health issues



Educational Needs



Financial Needs



Resources



Sharing insights on relevant services

#### REGULAR SUPPORT



Support Calls



Whatsapp



Emails



Text



Facebook

**POST COVID-19**

Cafe-Style meetings

**Text/whatsapp Support:** 07907 614 516

**E-mail:** [parentplus@parentalminds.org.uk](mailto:parentplus@parentalminds.org.uk)  
**Facebook:** /PPSHUB

## Supporting Families ; Mental Healthcare

# Family Support

## Grants and funding

Financial support through West Devon Council welfare support fund. [https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/grant-and-funding-support/#indiv\\_fam](https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/grant-and-funding-support/#indiv_fam)

## 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)  
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)

## Free training from DIAS

Aimed at parent/carers supporting their child with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/demystifying-send-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-tickets-127732273669>

If you would like to know more please email:  
[megan.kenneallystone@devon.gov.uk](mailto:megan.kenneallystone@devon.gov.uk)

## Chat Health School Nurse

Text Messaging Service 07520631722  
An anonymous, confidential text messaging advice service for 11-19 year olds that enables them to contact their school nursing team with questions.

## The Alcohol Education Trust

[www.talkaboutalcohol.com](http://www.talkaboutalcohol.com) a range of really fun and engaging games and activities which help students to learn how to make safe choices around alcohol.

## Teen mental health

<https://www.mytutor.co.uk/blog/teen-mental-health-a-guide-for-parents/>

## Police prevent

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8DPPQUem9A>  
The police PREVENT Act Early campaign

## Coronavirus helpline

To answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)  
Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email:  
[DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

## Kooth online

Mental health and wellbeing support to farming families. Services are anonymous and can be booked ahead of time.  
[www.rabi.org.uk/kooth](http://www.rabi.org.uk/kooth)



# Mental Health

The CoronaVirus (COVID-19) pandemic is affecting all our lives. Many of us are struggling with how its affecting ourselves and our loved ones. Those of us already living with mental health problems are facing extra challenges too.

Please click on the link below to find reliable resources and tips to help you cope during this time.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/>

# Youth Intervention

I know our young people have a lot of questions about law and Policing, and handily this Instagram account @yourpolice.uk addresses a lot of those questions that they may not want to ask an adult, trusted or otherwise. As well as a lot of guidance on rights, law and terminology, there is quite a lot of information on Consent, healthy behaviours and behaviour change.

# Early Help Resources

This is a really powerful set of videos about seeing parent conflict through the child's eyes. <https://www.seeitdifferently.org/>



# Talk to a youth worker

On the space website there is a link that young people can follow to 'Speak to a Youth Worker' - this is a very simple on line form that young people can fill in - they will then get a call back within two working days.

The information on the service is here - [www.spacepsm.org](http://www.spacepsm.org)

The online form can be found [here](#).

\*Please note: this is to be filled out by the young person and not by a professional\*

Stay safe.

# Tavistock COLLEGE