



BISHOP VAUGHAN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

30th June 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We were delighted to welcome our first groups of pupils back to school this week and we commend them on their excellent behaviour and the maturity that they have shown in adapting to all of the new arrangements in place to protect their safety whilst they are in school.

While I am sure that you, like us, yearn for 'normality', at present schools remain in a position whereby only a proportion of our pupils can be with us in school each day, and therefore the learning provision will be 'blended learning': a combination of the days that we are able to offer in school, and of remote learning.

We are keen to support our pupils in adopting successful approaches to blended learning, particularly as it may still be in place to some degree in September. Even if that is not the case, however, it is important that our pupils get the most that they can from the remainder of this term, with the disruption that they and all others of school age have experienced due to the pandemic.

We are currently working towards offering livestreamed lessons using Welsh Government and Local Authority guidance relating to safeguarding. Importantly, if you have not yet completed a consent form allowing your child to participate in these, we would ask that you do so. These lessons are called synchronous lessons, because they take place at a specific time and cannot be accessed outside this time.

Most of our lessons will be asynchronous – recorded lessons or assignments – these allowing your child the flexibility of accessing provision at a time of their, or your, own choosing. This may be particularly helpful to families with limited IT provision and several school-age children at home needing computer access. They also allow our pupils the option of working at their own pace throughout the lesson and revisiting lessons and topics as many times as is needed, to ensure consolidation of knowledge and skills. The teacher support and messaging currently provided on Microsoft Teams will continue, and pupils can ask for help whenever needed with recorded or livestreamed lessons, as well as with assignments.

We recognise that our pupils have done an exceptional job in adapting to online learning; this changed way of teaching and learning effectively happened 'overnight' due to the national circumstances in March and their resilience and flexibility have been impressive. We too are working to adapt our ways of teaching and supporting learning. In doing so, we recognise that one of the biggest challenges our pupils face is managing this workload, and that, as parents and carers, it is difficult to regulate and monitor their engagement.

We are therefore putting in place a timetable that will help your child to structure their learning on the days that they are not in school this term. This timetable:

- Supports your child in managing both time and workload.

- Is, in reality, still relatively flexible. Unless a lesson is livestreamed, which will be only on the occasions indicated to them in Microsoft Teams by individual class teachers who are trialling this system, they will be able to access it at a time of their choice. This should, as stated, be helpful where there is limited IT access.
- Provides your child with four hours of lessons per day. These will be a combination of assignment-based and recorded lessons, with, as stated, some trialling of livestreamed lessons this term (where consent is received for participation). Wherever possible, we will offer recorded lessons and 'saved' lesson resources to allow your child the opportunity to re-visit lessons as often as needed.
- Allows your child a full week plus a weekend to complete each week's learning activities. Assignments from any given week must be completed by the Monday of the following week. Class teachers will be following up incomplete work after this point.
- Supports you in supervising and monitoring your child's learning activity.

In addition to the timetable provided, your child will have the opportunity each week to participate in an online tutorial meeting on Microsoft Teams with his or her form tutor, as long as consent has been given for this type of activity. In order to provide pastoral advice or guidance needed outside this usual forum of form group support, your child will also be offered a pastoral phonecall approximately once per fortnight, should you wish to take this up, for the time that blended learning remains in place. Details relating to this and about how to access tutorial sessions in Microsoft Teams will be provided shortly.

In the meantime, your child's timetable is provided below for your information, and can also be found in their year group folder on Microsoft Teams.

We are mindful that this is a challenging time for some parents and carers and I have therefore included a link to resources shared by the Education Endowment Foundation about how parents and carers can support their children's learning at home. Whilst aimed at supporting the parents of children of all ages, some families may still find it useful.

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19_Resources/Resources_for_parents/Summary_of_Resources_-_Parents.pdf

Should you have any queries relating to the above, or should you be concerned about your child's wellbeing at this time and require advice or support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year, who will be happy to help.

With our best wishes to you and your family –

Yours faithfully,



Mrs E Pole
Headteacher

Year 7 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	English	Science	RE	Welsh
RE	Welsh	Maths	English	Science
Art	French	PE	History	IT
Geography	Wellbeing	IT	Expressive Arts	D&T

Year 8 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	English	Science	RE	Welsh
RE	Welsh	Maths	English	Science
Expressive Arts	French	PE	Geography	IT
History	Wellbeing	IT	D&T	Art

Year 9 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	English	Science	RE	Welsh
RE	Welsh	Maths	English	Science
Art	French	PE	History	IT
Geography	Wellbeing	IT	Expressive Arts	D&T

Year 10 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	English	Science	RE	Welsh
RE	Welsh	Maths	English	Science
Opt 1	Opt 2	Opt 3	PE	WBQ
Opt 1	Opt 2	Opt 3	Wellbeing	WBQ

Year 12 Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option1	Option2	Option3	Option4	Option5
Option 4	Option 5	Option1	Option 2	Option 3
Two further hours per option which may include assignments				

Overview for Parents/ Carers

Blended Learning Provision (per week) - Summary				
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 12
Two hours:	Two hours:	Two hours:	Two hours:	Four hours minimum:
Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Each option subject
English	English	English	English	30 mins:
Science	Science	Science	Science	Tutorial
RE	RE	RE	RE	
Welsh	Welsh	Welsh	Welsh	
IT	IT	IT	WBQ	
One hour:	One hour:	One hour:	Opt 1	
Art	Art	Art	Opt 2	
D&T	D&T	D&T	Opt 3	
Expressive Arts	Expressive Arts	Expressive Arts	One hour:	
French	French	French	PE	
Geography	Geography	Geography	Wellbeing	
History	History	History		
PE	PE	PE		
Wellbeing	Wellbeing	Wellbeing		
30 mins:	30 mins:	30 mins:	30 mins:	
Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	