

Aspiration
Respect
Endeavour

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Roding Valley
HIGH SCHOOL

22nd June 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to you to give you an update on our home learning 'Teaching & Learning strategy' as we enter the last few weeks of this academic year. I would love to be inviting more students back to the school site, but the latest government guidance only allows this for Year 10 and Year 12 and even these in limited daily numbers.

As I am sure you're aware, the challenges of home learning have been difficult to face at times. Learning independently has been a completely new experience for so many students. Our teachers have also had to adapt their teaching strategies immensely to support learning at home. We have been working to overcome any of these challenges and put in place a comprehensive and consistent home learning package. As a school, we have really appreciated your support as our home learning provision evolves and adapts.

Roding Valley High School has been committed, from the offset, to providing home learning via our trusted platform; Google Classroom. We were a proactive school who had already invested in google classroom; we had already recognised it as an excellent teaching resource which offered endless opportunities. As you are aware, students are set an individual assignment per subject - that is due in at the end of each week. Our teachers have been utilising technology to provide feedback on work and assignments. We understand that having feedback is very powerful for our students, to not only continue to engage in work, but to also make those vital improvements where necessary. We have developed a [student guide](#) for the use of google classroom which can be found on our website.

We also understand that having a structure for learning is important. I am aware that many of you may have encouraged your child to stick to our '[RVHS suggested timetable](#)' guidance that was released in April. This timetable outlines how many hours of study are recommended in each subject. Our subject teachers plan their assignments according to this structure - but if your son or daughter is having difficulty with time management, then please do not hesitate to email the subject teacher directly and this can be discussed.

I hope you have already seen/had access to some of the excellent pre-recorded teaching videos from our subject departments; many of which appear on our subject [YouTube](#) channels. These videos are constructed by our subject teachers; who know that having a subject specialist explain difficult content can go a long way. These pre-recorded videos allow for students to see and hear from their own subject teachers. These recorded lessons have many benefits; they can be paused at any time, watched at any time, watched numerous times during the week and of course provide welfare benefits.

From the **29th June**, our commitment is that every single subject provides a minimum of one video recorded lesson per week to sit alongside their assignment. In many department areas, this is already happening. This video recording, as outlined above, will discuss the week's assignment and explain any difficult content that could result in misunderstanding if not



explained by a teacher. We really hope that these will support our students to deepen their understanding of the subjects that they study. It also adds a personal face to face element to the assignment and the further benefit of a video is that it can be repeated and paused to assist learning. This is not something that can happen in a 'live' situation.

Further to this, our teaching staff are always on hand to help further if it is needed. We are encouraging students to reach out to them either by commenting on the work set via Google classroom or emailing them. Having this one to one contact can help to solve problems quickly and effectively. Please [click on this link](#) if your son/daughter is still having difficulties with submitting work or seeing their feedback.

In regards to 'live lessons', this provision has been happening for our Year 12 (post 16) cohort since April and again has evolved to the comprehensive offer it is today. Our Year 10 cohort, who will be in their final year of GCSEs next year, are also starting to have access to some limited live lessons in their Ebacc subjects alongside online assignments and video recorded teaching. We are working on developing this practise further and would hope to incorporate this into our Key Stage three offer should we still be offering a remote curriculum in September. Live lessons can pose more safeguarding issues with younger students; equality access to equipment, staff training, combined with the availability of staff during this period are the other main issues.

Outlined below, is an overview of our home learning package for **KS3**. I am sure that you would agree that it is a comprehensive package in these unprecedented times. This is the package as it stands presently and will of course evolve as we move into next academic year:

Google Classroom Assignment:	Video recorded instruction:	Feedback:	Extra Provision Offered to Support HL:
<p>1 x assignment per subject per week</p> <p>Students submit at the end of the week.</p>	<p>1 x video recording from subject teacher per week</p> <p>Outlines assignment and discusses difficult content</p> <p>Will be posted alongside the Google classroom assignment.</p>	<p>Students should receive either an acknowledgement of receipt or limited subject related feedback on the assignments they submit each week.</p> <p>For more extended pieces of work or assessments, then detailed feedback will be given.</p> <p>Achievement celebrated in the RVHS Bulletin</p>	<p>Challenge & enrichment weekly brain boosters</p> <p>Humanities broadcast</p> <p>Maths Bulletin</p> <p>Roding Reads</p> <p>PE challenges & virtual sports day</p> <p>Virtual house competitions</p>

Thank you again for your continued support of Roding Valley High School during these challenging times. We will continue to support our students and develop our provision within this ever-changing climate.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Jenner', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sharon Jenner
Headteacher