

Home Learning – FAQ (Updated Tuesday 24 March 2020)

How do we hand in work?

At present we are not asking all students to hand in work. Many tasks will be self-marking (such as Maths Watch). If, as we expect, the closure lasts well beyond the Easter holidays we will start to issue students with email addresses and explore other means of interaction. This will allow greater flexibility in communicating with students and the opportunity to submit work. Some students (most likely Post -16) might be asked to submit work using OneDrive in the meantime.

Will the work get marked and how will it be returned?

Please see above. In the short term, for most students, it will not be possible to mark work other than those on self-marking websites. If teachers have requested work to be submitted via OneDrive (currently applicable to Post 16 only), feedback can be given by email.

Do we have to stick to the school timetable?

No. Staff will be setting an appropriate amount of work for each week. Sometimes this may appear at the beginning of the week, or on the timetabled day. It is important for families to find a routine that works for them.

Will there be work set for every lesson each day?

Please see above. In some cases teachers will set work that will cover a week's worth of lessons. If a teacher is ill and unable to set work we have asked Subject Leaders to provide cover work wherever possible.

Will there be work set for the Easter holidays?

While there may be a reduction in the lesson by lesson posts, we will ask teachers to add some project-based work that students may wish to explore. We appreciate the need to recognise that it is a holiday period while also providing material to support families in a time of self-isolation.

How do we contact teachers?

Please use the 'Contact Us' section of the website for phone numbers and email addresses.

What happens if the work is not done?

As we set up the system and approach the Easter holidays there is no formal system for recording the completion of work. We are very appreciative of the support of parents/carers in working alongside students to make this as meaningful a period as possible. An important message to give to students is that they should try not fall behind in relation to their peers. As described above we will be looking into the possibility of students submitting work via email after Easter.

How do we get passwords?

For Class Charts please contact your child's tutor (See 'Contact Us' page on website) or email Rebecca.beaumont@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk. There is also a public homework calendar available through Class Charts where you can filter by subject or teacher. For subject specific passwords (such as Maths Watch) please contact the subject leaders (See 'Curriculum' pages on website)

What should I do if my child is receiving too much or too little work?

At the moment, staff, students and parents/carers are all settling into a routine which will become the new normal for a while. The aim during this time is to keep students in touch with their learning, keep their brain active and to give them some structure within their day to help with their (and your) mental health and well-being. We want to keep the leap between this new normal and their return to normal classes, whenever that happens, as small as possible.

As we all adjust, it is very possible we will get the amount of work set wrong since different students have very different rates of working. Please do not allow them or you to get anxious about this. If you have concerns, please get in touch with us but it may be worth giving this new way of working a bit of time to settle in before worrying too much.