



Feedback and Advice for Parents & Pupils

Learning@Boroughmuir@Home

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your feedback last week. More than 220 of you got in touch and shared your thoughts about how things are going at your home school. We also asked teachers and pupils. I hope you had a chance to see “What Learning Means to Us?” on our website and Twitter to see some familiar faces!

Health and wellbeing takes priority. Your feedback was very helpful to let us know how we are doing and what we can do to improve. We can and will continue to offer guidance and advice at this unusual time we are not in a position to guarantee the same learning experience in every subject. Individual circumstances of teachers, parents and pupils vary and change.

What we can do is recommend what works for us and share good practice and principles for all learners (parents, pupils and teachers). This is what we were doing yesterday. We cannot guarantee or provide “live” direct teaching at this time, however, the need to see us and hear us more often has been taken on board.

Your feedback suggested that things are improving too as we all adjust. We are making improvements as we learn to adapt. We will continue to do this.

Please discuss the tips/advice with your child. We are still here so keep in touch and encourage them to keep in touch with teachers – we do miss them and want to hear from them.

Overall Trends – Parents Said

- **Most Parents** who replied were satisfied or very satisfied with learning provision online so far – communication, variety, accessibility, amount and frequency (**Especially S1-S3**)
- **A few parents** were dissatisfied with provision for S4 & S5 – this will change next week. Some issues with pupils being able to manage workload/Teams

Parents Said – What is working?

- *The online lessons and teacher support are all good. And the lack of pressure has been welcome during this adjustment period.*
- *My child is an independent learner - as long as work is posted they will complete it.*
- *Some subjects are well organised on teams, others are incredibly noisy and disorganised - it's impossible to be sure our daughter has picked up all tasks.*
- *My daughter seems to have enough work to keep her focused on learning, and she seems confident that she knows what she is doing. She gets assignments from her teachers, and they mostly seem to be sensible and achievable.*
- *We spend time discussing what work has been set and what needs to be done. My child is learning how to plan and prioritise their day, including when they want to exercise, relax and connect with their friends and do other activities they enjoy*
- *We discuss what has to be done, but he generally just gets on with the work himself*
- *Daily work coming through is good, seems to be clear on what needs to be worked on*
- *Ask the Teacher section, on Teams. Knowing what tasks to complete.*
- *She likes that she can interact online with teachers and classmates for support. I like that I'm not being bombarded with email!*

- *My son enjoys when a topic is presented visually eg video clips to watch and when assignments are – can we have more of this?*
- *Can there be more “live” teaching?*
- *Having specific assignments to deliver by specific dates is working well.*

Pupils Said – What is working?

- *Being able to ask teachers questions about the work if we don't understand or it's unclear*
- *when teachers explain thoroughly what I have to do*
- *The videos for lessons help me the most because it shows me what to do*
- *being able to go back and see what the teachers have said*
- *when the teachers link youtube clips to help explain the topic*
- *when they give us a task to complete for the end of the week*
- *its not scheduled so you can do it in any order you want*
- *My mum and sister and my friends*
- *the private emailing teachers for more information/help if needed*
- *i am finding it a bit overwhelming and finding each bit of work quite confusing but am starting to get into a good routine of doing the work*
- *Being able to contact teachers via teams if I have a question*
- *the sweet satisfaction of doing what i want to do afterwards and listening to music whilst working.*

Next Steps & Top Tips for Pupils

Please discuss and share with your child

Please remind your child that support available in school is still available at home

- ***Get in touch with your guidance teacher or Support for Learning or Year Head (email addresses have been uploaded again to Teams) if you are feeling overwhelmed or want to ask them a question – they are here and miss you!***
- Do what works for you – many of you have found new ways of working at home which is helping. Vary your tasks and “chunk” them into smaller bits. Take breaks.
- Get in touch with class teachers or school if you are confused – they may not be able to help immediately but we are all still here and will get back to you.
- Keep in touch with your friends and classmates – you say this helps you a lot
- Do what you can each day and don't worry – structure, routine, exercise and family time all help too. You are learning new things every day.
- Follow your timetable if you want a structure and don't have one – many of you said this helps. Advice on new levels of study given below.

- We have listened to your feedback and if we can improve things, we will! We are all learning and doing our best in this new world of learning.
- New subjects will be starting very soon – this may help your focus and motivation.
- Teachers have passed on concerns about young people who may be struggling with their learning – you may have received an email from support for learning or your guidance teacher. Keep in touch if you need us.

Moving to Next Level of Study

11th May (most subjects) or 1st June or 8th June (check website)

S1 Moving on to S2 Work

- Your “timetable” will stay the same in terms of time and number of subjects you are learning.

S2 Moving on to S3 Work

- **S3 you will have 3 periods per week of 8 subjects** if you want to reorganise your timetable and draw up a new one that works for you. You will have more work for fewer subjects.
- You will be invited into new teams when the subjects move forward (most on 11th May but some later).

S3 Moving on to S4 Work

- You will have the same time and subject allocation.

S4 Moving on to S5 Work

- You will move from 8 subjects to 5 subjects - you will be invited into new teams. Get in touch with any course choice concerns.

S5 Moving to S6 Work

- You will move from 5 to 3 subjects – you will be invited into new teams. Get in touch with any course choice concerns.

Take Care and Stay Safe.

Ms Presly DHT