



Keep calm, keep well and carry on with remote learning!

To further support our McAuley Family we have prepared the following FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) about working remotely whilst schools are closed.

What school work can we access whilst school is closed due to the coronavirus pandemic?

- Your subject teachers are setting work via Microsoft Teams, Google Classroom and e mail. This will, as far as possible, reflect the curriculum you would have been studying if you were in school (although where this is not workable for subjects, they have set something different).
- The EXL part of the website for students contains a variety of wider activities. Dip into these if you have any gaps when you are following your usual school timetable.

How do we access Teams?

To access Microsoft Teams, learners simply;

- ✓ Type in office 365 into google
- ✓ Use their normal school email login username and password
- ✓ Click onto Teams
- ✓ Locate your class

We're in the middle of a crisis, what's the point in doing the work?

- Our curriculum (what we study and the order in which we study it) is arranged so that, by Year 11 and 13, we have covered, practised and reinforced the knowledge, skills and understanding students need to excel in their examinations (and take their next steps in life). We need to use this time as best as we can to continue to learn to make sure this happens.
- Routine and activity (physical and mental) are good for us all in these unusual and worrying circumstances. Getting on with learning will benefit our mental well-being and allow us to stay in touch with others.
- Teachers will need to assess how much students have progressed their learning when we return back to school.

How can I get help/guidance/feedback?

- Class teachers will respond to reasonable amounts of communication from students and parents. This is manageable when kept to a minimum.
- Class teachers will mark and return work as promptly as possible and in line with school policy. However, we must bear in mind that this is not possible where staff become ill or have to care for someone who is ill.

What happens if we finish everything really quickly?

- This is a unique opportunity to extend your learning in the widest possible sense. Below are just a few of the things you could do:

Take on a creative project of your own choosing: art work, creative writing, diary writing, reading, writing a play, composing a song or piece of music, designing a product or fashion, listening to new music, creating a recipe.

You may be lucky enough to be surrounded by family members who you don't have this much time with usually. Perhaps you can Facetime or Skype them? This is a great opportunity to learn from them – the skills they use in their work? What they can remember of their own childhoods? Different countries they have been to? Take time to talk with them and persuade them to share their knowledge.

Keep fit!

What if we are struggling to keep up with the amount of work that has been set?

- If you follow your timetable, this will help you to manage your time.
- Your teachers may have set more work than you can complete in one lesson. This might be because they a) want to set enough to challenge you and keep you going and have over-estimated what you might be able to do in an hour or b) have set work to keep you going over the next few lessons.
- Nobody wants you to be stressed! Just do what you can do. Let your teacher know if you are feeling overwhelmed and they will be able to advise you.

The work is too difficult for me – I usually access help from the SEND department

- Teachers are trying to set work that can be done by everyone but sometimes that is more difficult than it may seem. Everyone is different.
- Email your class teacher or message them through Teams to explain you are having difficulties.
- If you don't get a response from your teacher get in touch with your form tutor and they can help you.
- Your teacher will change or alter the work to help you to complete it.

How can we support others?

- You must keep up the social distancing guidelines from the government. However, where you are aware (via phone contact or social media) that someone is struggling to access the school website and work, many students have been screen-shotting tasks and texting or messaging friends with the information.
- Some students are talking about their work over the phone with their friends as if completing group work and this is fine!
- Stay safe and appropriate on the internet, whoever you are communicating with (students or teachers). Remember all of our e-safety guidance and safeguarding procedures.

Thank you for all you are doing. Keep well. Keep learning.

