



Friday 15th January 2021

Parent/Carer Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

I thought it appropriate to write to provide you with an update on remote learning and to inform you of various other items of school news.

We are very pleased with the initial feedback we are receiving from learners, teachers and parents regarding remote learning. Many parents and carers have commented on the benefits of using the school timetable as a framework for learners to better structure their day and week, which I know was a difficulty experienced for some learners during the first lockdown.

We do appreciate that there were some initial technical difficulties for some learners at the start of the week which were caused by a national issue with Microsoft Teams, but have now been resolved.

Teachers have been trying to make each lesson a mixture of 'live' interactive interspersed with individual activities for each learner. We do appreciate that 80 minutes is a long time for any young person to be spending in front of a screen and we have been advising that learners take a screen break at the end of each double period before moving on to their next subject. We also appreciate that from time to time some learners complete all their assigned tasks well within the allotted time. To help with this, we are currently developing a range of tasks, activities and links for all learners to access towards the end of double periods and at times when they complete their assigned tasks within the double period.

We are monitoring learner participation with very closely. It is very important that learners make contact first thing each day with their Guidance Teacher in their Teams registration class and if we don't see them doing this for a few days we'll give you a call to check that all is well. If your son or daughter experiences difficulty getting online or accessing their classes please get in touch with the school office on the number above. If you have any other query or concern please make contact with their guidance teacher by phoning the school office.

Distribution of Resources

Over sixty pupils came to school on Thursday 14th January to pick up resources such as jotters, graph paper and squared paper. We intend to repeat this offer on **Thursday 21st January, again between 11 am and 2 pm**. Any learner who requires resources should

come to the gym door opposite the main school door between these times. Please follow social distancing rules and wear a face covering.

Virtual Weekly Assembly



I hope all learners were able to access the online virtual assembly on Monday 11th January. I hope to make this a weekly event and so the next assembly will be at **2 pm on Monday 18th January**. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend. In this I will give an update for learners of all school news, announce the Lighthouse moment of the week for outstanding work completed by a learner and set the weekly challenge. The link to the assembly will be available on the school website and also in your son or daughter's period 7 class on Monday.

I hope you have been able to access the videos and other information for parents which can be found on the '**Learning at Home**' tab on the school website. This tab on the school website contains a wealth of information including



A helpful video explaining remote Learning at Fraserburgh Academy

Information on how to access Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams



Online learning plans for every faculty for the next few weeks



A list of resources for remote learning



We realise that learning from home can be difficult at times and so, on the Learning at Home tab, you will also find information about the Aberdeenshire Educational Psychology Service Phoneline.



Parent Club is also a good source of information and support for all parents and can be accessed on their website - parentclub.scot



SQA - Share Your Views

The SQA have set up panels of key stakeholders so they can get a view of what these groups think about important SQA related issues. We would encourage you to make your views known to the SQA and to take part in these short surveys and you can register using the following links.

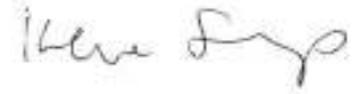
Learners - <https://bit.ly/2HJ1UVO>

Parents and carers of school learners - <https://bit.ly/2V3KNAV>

I hope you have found this newsletter informative. I intend to issue a newsletter regularly to keep you all updated.

As ever, should you have any queries, please contact the school on the usual number or email address, both shown at the top of this letter, and we will be pleased to help you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Irene Sharp".

Irene Sharp
Rector