



This newsletter is designed to give some more clarity and guidance in relation to home learning in these unprecedented times. We would like to begin by thanking you as parents for supporting your children to engage with the work set. Home learning is a new challenge for us all and we are acutely aware of the challenges that it presents at home. We are in admiration of how pupils are rising to this challenge and putting in their best endeavours despite the difficult circumstances. The school is closed and the curriculum is suspended: students are expected to do what they can, when they can. Please be assured that we will support them, wherever they are up to, when they return.

### **Safeguarding and live lessons:**

We have received a number of queries as to why we are not doing live lessons. We understand there is a wealth of technology out there and we have looked at it and considered it all. However it's vitally important to us that what we are delivering to support home learning is equitable and safe. Live lessons cannot be accessed by all: many households don't have the technology or have multiple children requiring the same device; some families have unreliable internet provision due to where they live. Not all children may be well, or staff for that matter, and therefore an equitable delivery cannot be achieved or maintained. Furthermore, we cannot control what goes onto the screen in the home of the child and therefore we cannot guarantee children's safety. Therefore we will not be using this approach. I know this is disappointing for some, but we do ask for your understanding in this matter.

If your child is needing support or guidance then please ask them to use their school email to ask a query via the home learning email: [homelearning@brineleas.co.uk](mailto:homelearning@brineleas.co.uk) or the Microsoft Teams site which year 10 and 12 students have access to. The email will be forwarded to the department for a response. This may take time, but someone will get back to you. Please be assured staff are working hard behind the scenes and again we thank all the parents for supporting home learning. The curriculum is currently suspended and we are planning for children to come back at different points in their learning and will fill gaps and support all equitably on their return.

### **Feedback:**

When the students are in school and in lessons, Feedback can take many forms. It can be: verbal; delivered via 'whole-class feedback' (this is where comments, targets and actions for all members of a class are shared on one sheet instead of written individually in to books); provision of answers to quizzes for self-assessment; peer assessment; provision of model answers to demonstrate excellence; sharing of success criteria and common misconceptions; live marking of work using visualisers; improvement of sample answers (modelled by the teacher/paired/individually) etc. The purpose of Feedback is to support learning and move the student forward. Students will act on feedback to make progress over time.

In these strange times, we are having to adapt how we offer Feedback whilst ensuring that what we provide is sustainable and equitable. All departments are making feedback accessible to students. We are working to ensure that the signposting of this Feedback, in its many guises, is clear in the home learning section of the website: whether this is signposted in the instruction sheets themselves, or a separate Feedback document.

Please be assured that, as the curriculum is suspended, we will have to pick up with all students where we left them on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Transition**

Year 11: Hopefully students have gained access now to the Eton College course we are offering. The access instructions are in the home learning section of the website for Year 11. Bl6 is continuing to make phone calls to any student who has a clash of subjects on their timetable and anyone who has not yet had their IAG interview.

Year 13: There is a Post-18 Newsletter being put together as we speak, so keep an eye out for that. Hopefully students have gained access to the Eton College course we are offering. The access instructions are in the home learning section of the website for Year 13.

Thank you once again for your support with home learning. Take care and stay safe.