



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

BUCKINGHAM ROAD
WINSLOW
MK18 3GH
(01296) 711853

WEB: WWW.SIRTHOMASFREMANTLE.ORG

28th April 2020

Dear students, parents and carers,

Re: Home Learning

I trust that you are all coping with the abrupt change to your formal education and are using this time to continue your education in a different way. I would also like to impress on all students the importance of persisting with home study during this period of school closure.

It is an incredibly difficult time for all involved and creates significant challenges for year 10 students who are due to be sitting their GCSE exams this time next year. Research indicates that students who adopt a mature work ethic throughout year 10 suffer from less stress and pressure during year 11 in the run up to GCSE examinations. With this in mind, it is of paramount importance that students try to continue with work as much as possible and utilise the resources that the school is making available for them.

Microsoft Teams is the primary platform where work is being shared. I would ask that all students are logging on regularly and looking to keep up to date with deadlines. Here is a link to the school website section on how to use Microsoft Teams and it also contains a helpful video by Mr Simpson: <https://www.sirthomasfremantle.org/page/?title=Covid%2D19%3A+Learning+from+Home&pid=79>. Teachers are setting assignments to complete and there is also the function for students to ask questions of teachers using the chat section.

Equally, all year 10 students have a GCSE Pod account (www.gcsepod.com) where they can find helpful videos which summarise topics into 5 minute videos. If students have forgotten their login details for this service, they can email me and I can reset their passwords here.

Maintaining an independent work ethic during this time is a significant challenge that this pandemic has created. In my opinion, the best way to keep on top of your work is to put together a study plan where students aim to complete 3 sessions of work per day. These should be for up to an hour and be without the distraction of a mobile phone etc. Breaking up these sessions will help you to focus during this time and the development of a routine will assist here. Set a timer so that you know when your work has been completed.

If anyone is struggling to access their work and meet their deadlines, please get in touch with either your tutor or myself and we can try to support as best we can. Whilst every year 10 student is in the same position at present it does not mean that we can avoid our work as we don't want to create additional stress in year 11. Trust me when I tell you that year 11 is stressful enough without the pressure of learning content that you were meant to have covered in year 10.



Look after your bodies and minds during this time and do keep teachers, tutors and myself informed of how you are getting on and if you require any additional support.

Yours faithfully,

Mat Payne

Learning Leader for Years 10 and 11

mat.payne@sirthomasfremantle.org

