



Colchester High School

Tuesday 24 March

Dear Parents,

The purpose of this communication is to provide a reminder about the way that learning will continue whilst the school building is closed. This is an exceptional time for the whole country and our team here at Colchester High School are committed to ensuring that learning continues as we embark on a new and exciting way of providing education for all our children.

Our Priorities

All our efforts are concentrated on addressing two priorities: on the one hand, the wellbeing of our children, and on the other hand, the continuity of their education. Although our school building is closed, our learning continues, and we would welcome your support in reinforcing this vital message to your children.

Our Protocol

Our protocol ensures the continuity of teaching outside the classroom and is based on a phased approach to implementing 'remote' learning and 'online' learning.

1. Remote learning is the period when we provide educational learning tasks, activities and assignments to be undertaken in the more usual way, as they would be at school. The purpose of this period of remote learning is to allow our pupils to get used to this new routine of working from home. We will run the period of remote learning until the end of the day on the 27th March 2020.
2. Online learning is the period when we will use online platforms to provide teaching and learning using a range of virtual resources. Online learning will begin on 21st April 2020 and we will be contact with you soon with more information regarding this.

We will be using a small number of platforms and systems to support our virtual learning programme. Our main platform will be SeeSaw for EYFS and Prep (Nursery to Year 2) and Microsoft Teams for KS2-4 (Years 3-11). Alongside this, our teachers will be drawing upon other educational platforms that will help us deliver learning in a stimulating and engaging way for our children. These will include GCSEPod, Linguascope, Mathswatch, Educake, Timetables Rockstars, Spelling Shed etc.

Key contacts

Please be reassured that our usual routes for communication will continue during the period of closure. For general day-to-day queries about your child's education, please contact your child's form or subject teacher. A list of staff email addresses have been sent out prior to this communication. If students wish to contact staff they must use their school email address.



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For other queries you may have, I include below a reminder of our key contacts in the school.

Pastoral or Wellbeing

Lower School: claire.smith@cognita.com

Key Stage 3: chris.rayner@cognita.com

Key Stage 4: alison.banks@cognita.com

Designated Safeguarding Lead: carole.goodwin@cognita.com

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: cora.allen@cognita.com

E-Safety Lead: philippa.rush@cognita.com

Academic Support

For academic support please contact your child's class or subject teacher or Head of Department. An email contact list is attached for Lower and Senior School. Please be aware that this is new to all of us and therefore we expect a high volume of emails. We will endeavour to answer all emails as swiftly as possible.

ICT Support

Cognita have set up a parent/student help desk to assist students and parents during this time. If you need any assistance please contact OnlineLearningSupport@cognitaschools.co.uk

I would like to thank all staff, parents and students at this time for your continual support and please do not hesitate to contact me on harriet.croydon@cognita.com should you require any further assistance.

Yours Faithfully

Harriet Croydon