

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our remote learning has brought our staff into your own homes giving you the opportunity to experience the lessons and see what school is like for your child. Many of you can see how education has changed over the years and have sent emails commenting on the level of commitment, compassion and support shown by our team. Remote learning is not easy for any us, parents and students included, and your praise really does bring a smile to our faces and warmth to our hearts so thank you so much for your support.

Please remember, we are one community and if we can offer you more support do not be afraid to ask. We will be only too happy to help. Stay safe and take good care,

Mrs Sonia Taylor



REMINDERS & NOTICES

Remote Education

I hope you and your child have managed to find a routine that works regarding remote education. Tutors are working extremely hard to ensure contact is made on at least a weekly basis but if there are any issues that arise, internet issues, or even just that your child is having a 'down' day, do not hesitate to get in touch.

We recognise the challenges that are being faced by all our community at this time and will be sharing more advice and ideas to support education, health, well-being, and happiness. There is a new area of our school website 'Remote Education' which will be being populated with all the previous help, guidance and information relating to remote education. This will also be used for sharing all future information and to recognise the brilliant engagement and learning taking place throughout years 7-13.

So far, information on the following has been shared and is available on the website:

- Remote Education Guidance for parents/carers – how will it work
- Letter to introduce Remote Education and outline behaviours and protocols
- Introduction to Teams video – how to download and get started
- How to 'join' a lesson (meeting) on Teams
- How to use Xbox or PlayStation to access Teams
- How to use MS LENS to photograph work and create documents
- How to upload work and photographs to Teams
- Full guide to Assignments for all devices including how to access, open and edit documents, how to 'hand-in' work, how to upload work and more
- How to change your device screen colour to support screen fatigue, dyslexia, and other needs
- DfE (Department for Education) template for Remote Education Provision – outlining responses to key questions and points – created by the DfE
- Confident Communicators during Lockdown

Online Safety

To help keep up to date with all the latest online trends and tips to keep your child safe online click on the link to sign up to National Online Safety. There's a wealth of tips and information including courses, for parents to enhance their knowledge of the online world. It's also available as an app that can be downloaded from Google Play store or the Appstore.



Remote Working

If you require stationary, exercise books or paper to assist with home learning. Please contact Ms Ashley on 01630 652121 or reception@groveschool.net



Communicating Confidently

We are at our most confident when we feel in control and know what is happening around us. All parents can come under pressure, even in the best of times, so it is perfectly understandable if during this new lockdown you are unsure of how or what to say to your child in response to their own uncertainties. The following tips are taken from research by leading child experts; only you know what works well for your child and every family is different, so make these into techniques of your own and feel confident.

School age children are constantly learning and exploring their world. They may have lots of questions as they start to form their own views on issues and this may especially be the case at the moment. As they move towards being more independent, they may seem to push boundaries and become more challenging - it's a necessary part of growing up.

- Children may become more clingy or argumentative. This could be a result that they are missing friends or relatives. Sharing a story or doing something together away from phones or the news will help your child feel safer and secure.
- You don't need to hide your worries. Talking about your own feelings actually helps to make children feel safe and reassures them that it's OK to talk about how they feel.
- If your child struggles to open up or if a difficult conversation needs to be had, try completing a fun activity whilst you talk.
- Ask them if they have questions and don't worry if you don't have the answers. Stick to the facts.
- Take time to do fun things together.
- Don't underestimate the power of a cuddle and letting them know that you'll get through this time together.
- Be willing and give your child chances to show they can be trusted.
- Consider ways to negotiate or offer choices so that your child can take ownership of their homeworking routines.
- Talk to your child about the rewards and consequences of their behaviour, and do it *before rather than after*.
- Take time to really listen to what your children are saying and explain to them what you are feeling.

Unifrog – the Complete Destinations Platform

Unifrog is an award winning, online careers platform that is now available from Y7-Y13. For more details, see attached letter or contact our School Careers Advisor Mrs Beath gail.beath@groveschool.net



FOCUS



We hope students are managing to settle into a healthy routine with their Remote Education. As well as receiving support and guidance from tutors and teachers, if there are any technical issues, we can support you with in accessing and engaging effectively with your learning please contact: ITsupport@groveschool.net

Remote Education Tech Help

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:

- **Options Evening**, 2 February.
- **Sixth Form Interviews**, 2 February.
- **Local Governing Body Meeting** 2 February

Click [here](#) to view our term dates.



NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.

Why not also follow us on Facebook @[GroveSchoolShropshire](#) for a wealth of content, from student, staff and school celebrations, to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow @[MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

