

Dear Parents / Carers

Please find below a link to some resources we have received; please view at your leisure. We hope they might help in some small way.

<https://www.pearson.com/uk/learners/videos-to-support-distance-learning.html>

[Videos to support distance learning | Pearson UK](https://www.pearson.com/uk/learners/videos-to-support-distance-learning.html)

We have produced the following short videos to supply you with hints, tips and tools to support your children with distance learning, either as a parent or teacher.

www.pearson.com

Problems accessing the work set by teachers?

We are still receiving regular queries from parents about your children not being able to find or access the work that has been set. In every case we manage to solve the problem. So, if this applies to you, please email us and we will endeavour to support you. Before you do though, please refer to the instructions we sent out just before closure, as they will help. These can be found on the website, as can everything we have sent home over this period. However, if that is not fruitful please do get in touch.

Don't worry

I do want to stress yet again that we do not want this period of time to turn into a pressured and unpleasant one because of the demands of the work teachers are setting your children to complete. Please keep in mind the number of hours of learning we have recommended to you. Do not worry too much if you are not able to help your child with their work, and do not worry too much if they do not manage to complete it all. Any communication from teachers to you about work not being done is purely for your information, and really is not in any way a moan; we just want you to be fully aware of what we are receiving so that you can make sure it marries up with what you think is being sent. No amount of home study is going to replicate effectively the classroom situation, where teachers can clarify and explain things as needed. It would be unrealistic to think progress made by our pupils during the closure will match what it would have been if in school as normal, but we do want them to engage in what they can, in a manageable way.

What should Year 11 pupils do now?

A few parents have asked me for further clarification on this. As mentioned in a previous

message, there is no longer any need for Year 11 pupils to complete work set, as the new instructions are that any work done since 20th March must not be used by teachers in forming their final grade recommendations. However, in my opinion, it would be a mistake for them to stop work completely between now and September. Reepham College will be sending A level preparation Summer tasks to all those pupils who received a conditional offer of a place with us, and who have identified us as their first choice destination; this work will be sent out next half term. However, to provide them with meaningful and worthwhile work we will also be sending out some suggested avenues for personal research related to their A level choices, probably by this time next week. We will also be asking departments to make it clear to pupils if there is any of the GCSE specification not yet covered, so they can cover those areas independently and not disadvantage themselves in their chosen A level subjects. My strong advice is for pupils not intending to come to Reepham College to contact their first choice destination and ask them if there is any suitable pre-course study that they might do.

I hope your families are doing well in this spell of social distancing. There seem to be very early signs for optimism that we are seeing the benefits of all these measures, and that infection rates are being controlled. Like you, I hope that we can get back to school as soon as possible, but also understand that this will only happen when the time is right. Hopefully this will be sometime this academic year, hopefully soon into the next half term. Please pass on a message from me to your children, letting them know that we appreciate all their hard work at home, that they shouldn't worry about things if they are finding the demands of home schooling frustrating but to carry on doing their best, that we will be able to make up for any lost time when we do return, and that they should keep in touch with each other as best they can, as well as looking after the other members of your families.

Yours sincerely

Tim Gibbs