



Buckler's Mead
ACADEMY

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Educating with care to succeed

5 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another busy week in the academy, mostly due to our remote visit from Ofsted. As you are aware I was contacted by Ofsted on Monday, who informed me they would be doing a remote inspection of the academy on Wednesday and Thursday. This was a monitoring inspection and so will not change our Ofsted grade, but was a great opportunity for us to show the progress we have made since the last inspection.

The lead inspector will be writing a letter to summarise their findings, which will be published after half term.

Additionally please see attached to this letter a letter from Julian Wooster, Director of Children's Services at Somerset County Council and also information below from Mr Balkwill on our plans for next week.

Yours sincerely

MARK LAWRENCE
Acting Headteacher

Week Six - Recover, Respond, Recap and Extend

Thank you to everyone who responded to the survey on our remote provision. This is a new way for teachers to teach and students to learn, and as such, we anticipated that there would need to be changes and our approach modified to provide a high quality remote provision. We are extremely grateful for the constructive feedback you have provided and the support you have given to the academy as well as to your children to help make this period of learning successful.

In response to this feedback, we have decided to change the focus of the work set in the final week of this half term. Teaching of new content will be paused for all year groups (except Year 11) and replaced with the tasks and activities detailed below. This is intended to support students to catch up on lessons or tasks missed, provide time to respond to any feedback given by the teachers, complete project work and recap/revisit the topics they have studied. We will also provide an opportunity for some students to extend their learning.



Acting Headteacher: Mr M Lawrence BSc Hons.

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For each lesson next week, students will complete the tasks listed below in order of priority. Students should carry out the most appropriate task(s) for each timetabled subject and their work should reflect the number of hours allocated for each subject on next week's timetable. Students are not expected to complete all four tasks, but we anticipate that the majority will be able to complete the recover, respond and recap activities set over the course of the week.

Priority Task One: **Recover**, catch up and complete project work/tasks/lessons that may have been missed over the past five weeks.

Priority Task Two: **Respond** to feedback given by teachers and submit for checking. Teachers and subjects may set and outline specific activities they would like students to focus on.

Priority Task Three: **Recap** and test knowledge by completing the Diagnostic Quiz set up on Google classroom.

Priority Task Four: **Extend** knowledge and understanding by completing a task that focuses on an area(s) linked to the current topic. These tasks will promote creativity, independent thinking and encourage students to research a topic in greater depth.

Google classroom assignments will be set for each subject outlining these tasks, along with attached resources, feedback and additional guidance if appropriate. Personal Development lessons will focus on wellbeing activities and tasks deigned to promote personal reflection and develop creativity. Teachers will continue to be available either on google meets or via the classroom feed over the course of the day and week to support students. Assemblies, 'Read to Succeed' and Tutor meets will go ahead as usual.

We hope that the change to arrangements next week will provide the students with a chance to consolidate the learning that has taken place this term. Lessons containing new learning and content will be planned to resume in the first week after the half term break. (Remember Monday 22 February is an INSET day for staff training)

If you have any further queries or questions please feel free to make contact via your child's tutor or Year Co-ordinator in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support.



MR PAUL BALKWILL
Acting Deputy Head (Curriculum)