



Remote Learning Provision by Year Group: Updated 22 May 2020

All year groups

We have all had to adapt quickly and have learned a lot since we moved to remote learning in March this year. The May half term allows everyone, staff and students, to pause, reflect and take a well-earned break. Firefly statistics show excellent levels of student engagement from home. Motivation can become difficult during prolonged lockdown and we will work as a school to re-engage the interest of students after half-term. When we return from 1 June there will be more interaction, dialogue and feedback between teaching staff and students. Training and support will be available for staff online and socially-distanced in the school building so that they can build their confidence in using more interactive tools such as videos, audio presentations (including Loom), forums and, in some cases, the use of video-conferencing (Microsoft Teams) and also the Google Education suite. It is important that our provision is inclusive for all students and does not pose excessive workload or anxiety for those involved.

There are important safeguarding procedures for all parties to adhere to:

<https://cockermouth.fireflycloud.net/support-2/covid-19---support/staying-safe-when-using-video-conferencing->

<https://cockermouth.fireflycloud.net/support-2/covid-19---support/cockermouth-school-child-protection-policy--covid--19-addendum-copy>

Please note that we continue to set work according to the timetable. This is to allow both teachers and students the predictability they need to establish routines. However, we all understand that some pieces of work may take more than 1 session. A teacher should be clear that the work will last a number of sessions and state when the final submission is due. Students may decide to adapt their home routine to spend more or less time on a subject on any given day, but over a fortnight the time allocated should balance out.

Years 7 and 8

With such a range of ages and subjects, it is very difficult to create guidelines that work for all students in all subjects at all times. It is important that students are able to have a routine and they can anticipate what is coming up in the days ahead. It is difficult to predict how long some tasks will take, but we recommend about 30 minutes of work per lesson; this is a reduction from our earlier guidelines to make the day more manageable for students. Those students who wish to do more can ask for more or use national resources such as BBC Bitesize and the Oak National Academy. The tasks should be set by 1pm the day before so that students can plan ahead and structure their day. Where subjects feel that a project extending over a number of hours is suitable, we ask that students are reminded of the task as per their timetabled lesson.

Year 9

The guidance for Year 9 is the same as the above guidance for years 7 and 8. However, there is one significant change in respect of their GCSE preferences. In order to allow students to focus on their preferences, from Monday 1 June, students will follow their preference choices and they may discontinue the preference subjects that they will not be examined in. Teachers will increasingly tailor the work towards skills, content or background knowledge for the GCSE courses; we call this bridging work and our current Year 11s are doing very similar in preparation for their A level courses. Year 9 teachers of preference subject will set work for their classes via Firefly. They will have a list of students who have chosen the subject at GCSE and those students will be expected to complete the work set and submit work as requested. Business Studies, Health and Social Care and iMedia will be setting 2 x 30 minutes of work via Firefly for students who chose these subjects which are not studied in Year 9. All students will continue with non-examined subjects such as P.E. and P.D.

Year 10

All formal announcements indicate that Year 10 students will sit their examinations as normal in summer 2021. It would be very difficult for exam boards to reduce the content of the syllabuses as schools choose to cover the course in

different ways across the 2 years. All students nationally faced school closure so marks will be standardised and grades awarded. Therefore, courses continue to be taught as per the timetable.

To support students, we intend to hold Academic Review days where students will have the opportunity to meet their teacher for a conversation about the work that has been set, any problems and to look at what needs to be done by September. The purpose of the conversations is to offer support, motivation and guidance. The logistics will be announced in June and will be based upon our risk assessment for safe practice in school. It may also be possible to hold one-off sessions for different subjects. We will remain flexible and open-minded in approach. Anything we offer will be considered with safety in mind.

The main delivery of the GCSE courses will be via remote learning until the summer holidays. We are asking our teachers to invest time in upskilling in the use of different aspects ICT so that students get to see and hear more from their teacher both at the instruction and feedback stages. We require all Year 10 students to follow the timetable and complete tasks set. Where any student is finding work difficult, they should make contact with the teacher via school email. If a student is finding home learning difficult more generally, they should make contact with their tutor or Miss Sykes, Head of Year 10. Teachers will contact students who have missed deadlines; for most subjects it would be appropriate to follow up on a weekly rather than daily basis. Teachers should first check the weekly pastoral list before contacting a student. If there are no issues noted a teacher should first contact the student e.g. by Firefly message. If there is still no engagement, the teacher should contact the parents by email or phone. There may be a small number of students who have been unable to work effectively at home during the period of school closure. Those students will be invited into school to study and may be given additional support to ensure that they keep up-to-date with their courses.

Students will be set work according to their timetable. Tasks should be set by 1pm the day before the timetabled lesson so that students can organise their day. Where tasks are planned to run over more than 1 lesson, the teacher should send a reminder for each timetabled lesson. We recommend between 30-50 minutes per timetabled lesson. Every subject and every student is different. Where tasks are exceeding this suggestion we ask students and teachers to be in dialogue with each other so that we can continue to adjust accordingly. Teachers are adapting the sequence of the curriculum to ensure that the most difficult concepts are taught when we return from closure.

The Personal Development course for Year 10 will be completed by Monday 8th June. Students may then use this time for their other examined subjects.

Year 11

After May half-term students normally begin to take study leave and exams usually end around mid-June. We will therefore no longer be setting the 'How are you? Tutor task. It is important that all students know that they can still contact the school if they have any worries, pastoral or academic, and we will offer support as we always have.

All Year 11 students should be using the period of lockdown to develop their skills, knowledge and interests. It is likely that future employers and training providers will want to know what students did with this period of time. All students have used Unifrog. This platform is a gateway to post-16 life for all and includes career development, free online courses (MOOCs) and the opportunity for students to build their own portfolio.

For **students who are not intending to continue to study A levels** we have created a support page on Firefly: <https://cockermouth.fireflycloud.net/ks4-pastoral/post-16-college-students---work>. This page will guide you to 4 important areas you can develop: Unifrog careers development, careers preparation, skill development (literacy and numeracy) and other areas of interest. We have also contacted local further education and apprenticeship providers. A summary of their responses is available on our student closure pages on Firefly.

Students who are intending to start A level courses in September should be engaged in 'bridging work' for 4 A level courses. In addition, all students should complete Enrichment bridging which will help develop wider skills and interests that are important to broadening future opportunities. Entry into the Sixth Form is dependent on the successful completion of bridging work. Work for each subject can be found on Firefly at <https://cockermouth.fireflycloud.net/sixth-form/y12-bridging-work-2020>. Enquiries about general entry to the Sixth Form should be directed to the Director of Sixth Form, Mr D Murray murrayd@cockermouthschool.org. Subject specific enquiries should be directed to the relevant Head of Department unless a named teacher has been cited as the point of contact.

Year 12

All formal announcements indicate that Year 12 students will sit their examinations as normal in summer 2021. It would be very difficult for exam boards to reduce the content of the syllabuses as schools choose to cover the course in different ways across the 2 years. All students nationally faced school closure so marks will be standardized and grades awarded. Therefore, courses continue to be taught as per the timetable.

To support students, we intend to hold Academic Review days where students will have the opportunity to meet their teacher for a conversation about the work that has been set, any problems and to look at what needs to be done by September. The purpose of the conversations is to offer support, motivation and guidance. The logistics will be announced in June and will be based upon our risk assessment for safe practice in school. It may also be possible to hold one-off sessions for different subjects. We will remain flexible and open-minded in approach. Anything we offer will be considered with safety in mind.

A level courses continue to be taught but the pace of work covered may be slower than 'normal' term time. We recommend up to 50 minutes per timetabled lesson; this may be a reduction from what has been set since closure and is in response to feedback from students about the volume of work they're receiving. Every subject and every student is different. Where tasks are exceeding this suggestion we ask students and teachers to be in dialogue with each other so that we can continue to adjust accordingly. Teachers are adapting the sequence of the curriculum to ensure that the most difficult concepts are taught when we return from closure. Students will be required to keep any work set during school closure for future reference.

Some subjects may have additional requirements in order to start NEAs. Heads of Department will liaise with Dr Henley and these will be facilitated on a case-by-case basis.

Students will be set work according to their timetable. Tasks should be set by 1pm the day before the timetabled lesson so that students can organise their day. Where tasks take longer than 1 lesson, the teacher should send a reminder for each timetabled lesson. We are providing training for teachers so that they are able to use ICT to facilitate more interaction with both lesson delivery and feedback. Teachers will ask for work to be submitted and give guidance in response. We require students to do all of the tasks set. Where any individual student is struggling with remote learning, they must make contact with their teacher, and if appropriate, their tutor or Head of Year. We must work as a team to nip problems in the bud.

Year 13

The majority of Year 13 students will now be focused on their next steps, whether that be further or higher education, apprenticeships or employment. For some, universities will provide suggestions for study that will prepare students for future courses. Other students may find it useful to work on their C.V.s, their Unifrog portfolios and/or engage in online MOOCs. We note that Eton College has also made its online courses free to Year 11 and 13 students during the period of school closure: <https://etonx.com>.

Cockermouth School does not have an expectation that Year 13 students should be continuing with their courses. However, we will continue to support our students with academic, pastoral and careers support. Subject specific enquiries should be directed to the relevant teacher. Those students who wish to continue their weekly well-being contact with school should contact Mr Kay directly and he will arrange for on-going pastoral support. Additionally, parents and students should feel able to contact Mr Kay if issues arise between now and results day.