

# Northolt High School



**Supporting your child's learning  
during the extended school closure**

**A guide for parents**

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# 1. What we are providing for students

## 1.1 Aims

Our aim is to provide the best education we can for your child, even in the event of a school closure. Teachers and support staff continue to work remotely and we continue to keep your children's learning at the heart of what we are doing. But this is new for all of us so, whilst we have planned thoroughly we expect that things may change as time goes on and we ask you to please bear with us!

## 1.2 Google

We are lucky in that we use G Suite for Education in school and already have some fantastic tools available to us. Every child has a school email address and a Google account. They already have a Google Classroom (a restricted access webpage) for every lesson on their timetable. They are used to using these and as with most technology are usually better at using it than most adults. If you are not familiar with Google Classroom, please see this link which explains how it works: [Google Classroom - how to use it to support learning](#)

## 1.3 Learning tasks

Teachers will set learning tasks for your child using Google Classroom. Teachers will assign lessons, following students' timetables as closely as possible. These lessons will provide everything students need to complete their learning. At the start of lessons, teachers will hold a live section via Google Meet where students will be introduced to the lesson's objectives and where they will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue. If you require support accessing Google Meet, please see this link: [Google Meet](#). Some tasks can be completed online whilst others should be completed in books or on paper. We appreciate that many students can access the internet but not always on a device on which they can easily work and we know that few people have access to printers. Therefore we will try to set work which is flexible in terms of how students complete it. Again, we will refine the way we do this to meet the needs of our students.

## 1.4 Feedback

There will be opportunities for feedback including self-assessment, group feedback and individual marking. Students will be able to get in touch with their teachers, via Google Meet and Google Classroom although students may also wish to contact their teachers directly via email regarding their learning. If they do, they may only use their school email address as teachers cannot reply to any other email addresses. Teachers will only respond between 8am and 4pm. Please also bear in mind that staff may not be able to respond immediately and may not respond to every individual contact depending on the volume of emails they receive.

# 2. Students with additional needs

## 2.1 What we are providing

Students with additional needs will be provided with support by their teachers in the usual way. Some, including those with EHCPs, will be given a named member of staff from the SEND team

who will provide additional support via Google Classroom and email. They will contact your child directly and will support them with learning as well as providing direct support via email. Please bear in mind that staff may need to work flexibly if, for example, they have their own young children home from school to care for, so they may not be able to respond immediately if students have questions.

## **2.2 Where you can get help**

You can contact the named member of support staff or your child's class teacher directly. If you need further help, you may contact our Director of Inclusion/ SENDCO, Mrs Nayyar via email at [anayyar@northolthigh.org.uk](mailto:anayyar@northolthigh.org.uk) or email [admin@northolthigh.org.uk](mailto:admin@northolthigh.org.uk)

## **3. What we expect your child to do**

### **3.1 Our learning ethos**

Our school values are **Pride, Courage** and **Respect**. We know our students take pride in their achievements, have the courage to challenge themselves to do their best and are respectful of their own learning journeys. We expect them to continue this even though we are not able to physically be in school.

### **3.2 Expectations**

All students should expect to spend the same amount of time learning as they would if they were in school. We have advised them that they should stick to their normal lessons times and routines as this will help them to stay focused. We expect them to take their learning seriously and to do their best. You can see the guidance we have issued to students here: [Student Learning During School Closure Guidelines](#). They have also been given guidance on how best to study independently in this document: [Working Independently from Home - student guide](#).

## **4. What you can do to support your child**

### **4.1 Supporting your child's wellbeing**

None of us is quite sure what will happen over the next few weeks and this can be quite unnerving. Children especially will be worried and will find a change in their routine unsettling. It is important to talk with your child about what is happening. They will have questions and need honest, factual answers. They need to be able to tell you if they are scared and be reassured that we are all doing our best to minimise the impact on them. Below are links to other organisations which have given advice on how to talk to your child about the coronavirus.

[Unicef - How to talk to your child about coronavirus](#)

[BBC - How parents should talk to kids about coronavirus](#)

[Young Minds - Talking to your child about coronavirus](#)

[The Guardian - How to stop a worry becoming catastrophic](#)

You may find information such as that provided by the NHS useful in explaining the situation to your child. Our website also contains links to a number of useful organisations under the 'Parents' tab in a section called 'Supporting your child's mental health'.

#### **4.2 Routines and structure**

It will be important to try to keep your children in a routine. They should go to bed and get up at normal times (maybe with a bit of a lie-in as they won't be travelling!) and should try to learn during normal school lesson times. A suggested schedule is below. You can help by sticking this schedule up on the wall or asking for a copy of your child's timetable (they all have it in their planner and can copy it out if necessary) and sticking that up. Encourage your child to stick to their timetable. If you can, allocate a space for your children to work. We don't all have the space for desks and tables, but even having a box to keep all their work in which they get out during the school day and pack away at the end can really help to keep them organised. You could provide a snack or an activity in the allocated breaks and even with older children, rewards charts can be a great motivator because we all like to see when we've done the right thing and be praised for it.

9:40 - 11:20	Lesson 1
11:20 - 13:30	Lesson 2 (including a 30 minute break at 12:30 for KS3 students and 13:00 for KS4 students)
13:30 - 15:10	Lesson 3

#### **4.3 Other activities**

It will also be important to try to provide other activities for your child, even if they cannot go out to socialise. This may be something like playing a board game together as a family, doing some art, watching a film together, practicing their dance moves with YouTube! Of course, healthy eating and exercise are vital so you will really help your child by doing what you can in this area. Involve them in planning what you are going to eat as a family and maybe even get them to use your skills and help you out by preparing meals.

#### **4.4 Praise and rewards**

At school we try our best to recognise when a child has done well or tried their hardest. We know they enjoy praise and recognition from their families too. We appreciate you will have a lot on over the coming weeks, but stopping for a moment to recognise an excellent piece of work or some really fantastic effort to do something difficult will go a long way and will help your child to feel that there is value in what they are doing.

#### **4.5 Where you can get help**

If you would like some help in supporting your child's learning, please email

## 5. What to do if you are worried about a child

### 5.1 Anxiety

Children feel the pressure to do well and may have anxieties about all manner of things. These worries may become worse at this time. There are lots of fantastic organisations offering support and advice, including helplines specifically for parents. Please refer to the following sections of our website for more details:

[Our Approach / Safeguarding](#)

[Parents / Supporting your child's mental health](#)

### 5.2 Safeguarding

If you are worried about the safety of your child or another child, you must take action. During school hours you can contact us by emailing [safeguarding@northolthigh.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@northolthigh.org.uk).

If you do not get a quick response from a member of staff, if you are concerned outside of school hours or if you would prefer to, you can always make a referral directly to Children's Social Care via ECIRS, their 'front door'. To do this, call [020 8825 8000](tel:02088258000) and select Option 1 then Option 1 again.

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of significant harm, you may need to call the police on [999](tel:999). For less urgent matters, you can alert the police on [101](tel:101).

**Please remember** - our aim is always to do the best for all of our students. This is a new situation for all of us so whilst we have plans in place, things may change over time. Please do keep checking our website for any news or updates and do get in touch if we can help.