

Guidance for Remote Learning

Dear Parents,

We would like to clarify the guidance for remote learning which will begin on Monday 23rd March. Before we outline the plan, we want to acknowledge that the next few weeks and months are bound to throw up their own anxieties for you as parents and for your children. We have explained to the pupils that they will not get into trouble if they do not do the work that teachers have set. We will not be chasing anyone up if work is not submitted to us. If, as a family, you decide that there are other, better things you could be doing with your time then their teachers will be happy with this. However, we will be very happy to receive, read and give feedback on the work we have set where this is possible. Ultimately, we want your children to feel safe and happy, not stressed about having to complete assigned work.

For the remainder of the Lent Term, at 8:30am on Monday mornings you will receive the remote learning plan (RLP) for the week ahead. This will be sent to your child's O365 school email account. The plan will outline the learning activities for the week ahead across all subjects. Any necessary links will be included in the document.

The instructions may refer to additional sheets or attachments. These will be sent separately to the same email account (child's O365 email account) by the subject teacher, Head of Department or Head of Year.

The email addresses for the children's O365 accounts were sent to you on Thursday 19th March. We also sent password information for pupils in Years 1-4. Pupils in Years 5-8 know and own their passwords. If you have any issues with logging in please do contact IT support by emailing itsupport@stmichaels.kent.sch.uk

The RLP will include a suggested submission day. This is a guideline only as we recognise that you will need to find a structure and rhythm to the work that fits with the demands in your household. If you are able to follow the suggestion, we hope that we can manage the flow of work for both pupils and teachers. Pupils can send in work by completing the task online, emailing their teacher or uploading it to SeeSaw.

We are delighted to announce that a St Michael's sport Youtube account has been set up to provide a 'daily dose' of exercise for your children (and hopefully you too!). The link will be included in the RLP and we hope that your families will embrace the chance to be active during this time.

Week one will inevitably throw up some challenges and, whilst we aim to deal with everything positively and proactively, we will all need to have patience and understanding that it will take time to find our feet. We ask that you have patience with questions and issues raised as we cannot guarantee that staff will be able to get back to you immediately. If you need to ask questions or find support, please do email the subject teacher relating to any work queries, or the form teacher, Head of Year or one of the senior team with a pastoral or wider issue. All email addresses can be found on the Parent Portal by following the link in the [Coronavirus Update section](#). On this page you will also find some helpful advice from Miss Booth for managing your child's online work from home.

We are aware that there are WhatsApp groups amongst the parent body. Please do use these as a tool to support each other whilst getting used to our remote learning model.

We thank you for your support and engagement with the measures that we are putting into place to navigate these challenging times. By maintaining a strong sense of community, we will find our way through this and we will all emerge with new skills and the sense of achievement that we made it.

We look forward to seeing the results of your home learning and continuing this journey with you as the weeks progress.

Very best wishes,

Mary Bridges & Fraser Wiseman