



Dear Parent / Carer,

As a follow on from the information that was issued last week I would like to take this opportunity to hopefully answer some of the questions you may still have.

Firstly, I would like to say a huge well done and thank you to all our young people, staff and parents/carers, this is a completely new way of working for all of us! We are very aware that many have experienced some teething issues during this first week as staff adjust to delivering learning remotely online and young people adapt to using their iPad in a new way. There continues to be technical issues, some of which are out with our control and we are working closely with SBC technical support and individual families.

In order to achieve the best possible outcomes for our young people we all have a part to play and we hope that we can rely on your support with this.

We need our young people online and ready to learn each morning at 9am, where possible. Their iPads need to be charged and they need to be able to log onto their iPad. Their first task is to log on to Satchel One to organise their timetable each day.

We know that you continue to have questions and we hope the following will help answer these.

#### **What if my young person has an issue with their iPad?**

We have placed help guides on our website (see Covid 19/Inspire learning) and on social media to support. However if any young person continues to have issues with their iPad, please contact the school office:

- Tel: 01573 227440
- Email: KelsoHS@scotborders.gov.uk

#### **Does my young person need to be on-line?**

Yes. We would encourage our young people to develop a daily routine and where possible begin their days at 9am and begin by logging on to Satchel One to organise their learning for the day.

#### **Are there any subjects that are not being delivered on-line?**

Yes. We have identified a small number of subjects which don't lend themselves particularly well to Remote Learning. These are:

- S1/2 Leadership
- S2 Options

PSE lessons: Within the periods that have been assigned to PSE we are now holding regular drop-ins at this time to provide support with home learning/time planning etc from our Pastoral Team.

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### Is learning being delivered in blocks?

Yes, we are asking our young people to following their timetable to support and structure their learning throughout the week. Next week is Week A

It was agreed by all SBC Secondary schools that we would deliver the online learning experience through three key areas for each of their subjects:

- **'New Learning' Session** – Most of the learning taking place at home will relate to new content. This new learning experience will be delivered via Microsoft TEAMS or OneNote at the normal timetabled time. The new learning experience may include pre-recorded videos, assignments, PowerPoints with voice over or many other forms. A LIVE presentation *may* be used to engage and develop new concepts. Some staff may look to develop this over the coming weeks on a voluntary basis. However the new learning is presented students will be expected to engage with it and attempt and submit any tasks and assignments to their teacher by the deadline given.
- **Feedback/Question session** – This will also take place during a normal timetabled time for that class. It will be more like a tutorial or drop in for students to ask questions and receive feedback. Participation is not compulsory but if a young person is unsure about work or wants some feedback we would encourage them to speak to their teacher at this available time. The time identified is where the class teacher will be available and able to respond to student queries directly. Students can of course email or send queries via TEAMS to their teacher but be mindful these will only be responded to at the appropriate time of the class. I would really recommend that students engage with this session as this is where they can get personal interaction with their teacher.
- **Tasks and activities** – to make sure we understand how young people are progressing they will be asked to complete and submit work for marking which will be vital for making progress in the next lesson. Details of these activities will be posted in the information on Satchel One. Parents will receive a notification from teachers on completion/poor completion or non-completion of tasks via Satchel One after submission dates for work.

### Will the teacher be on-line during the periods when delivering new content?

Yes, if the new content is being delivered via a recorded presentation their teacher will still be online to answer questions. This can be done via Teams chat function. Time will be provided within this session to allow young people to put into practice new content which has been presented to them and if required ask further questions.

### Are there updates regarding SQA awards for our Young People in S4-S6?

As we know from the information we have received to date from SQA that awards this year will be based on the evidence we have for young people. It is therefore imperative that young people in S4-S6 are engaged with all the learning provided and take up the offer of the support periods. National 4, 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Courses will be covering new content, where appropriate. We may not be able to revisit this content when we re-open as it will be being assessed for evidence for SQA.

SQA - The National Qualifications Group is working through a range of scenarios and is considering potential flexibilities for the alternative certification model, should they be needed. This may include extending the date for submitting provisional results.

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**P** PARTICIPATION  
**R** RESPECT  
**I** INCLUDED  
**D** DETERMINATION  
**E** EXCELLENCE

SQA released information for parents and carers on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January which can be found here:

[https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/96380.html?mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiTW1SaU5qSXdnalV3WIRNMCIsInQiOiJWVkJEM1RRTkMrTGZNMEEQwMGVHRGxOUkUxcW94MFIBTTJuZktCTjBLNXloK3ExbE1cL2p3ZzJOQTZ1YndnYUNoem9Eb1hqQURicW9yaTF3YTYPY2ZkbHA0ZFhNaUFNWWlaNjdxZjhOdFRnZjlpRTIzTEJWWDg2UkdZM2NBT2FsYVcifQ%3D%3D](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/96380.html?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTW1SaU5qSXdnalV3WIRNMCIsInQiOiJWVkJEM1RRTkMrTGZNMEEQwMGVHRGxOUkUxcW94MFIBTTJuZktCTjBLNXloK3ExbE1cL2p3ZzJOQTZ1YndnYUNoem9Eb1hqQURicW9yaTF3YTYPY2ZkbHA0ZFhNaUFNWWlaNjdxZjhOdFRnZjlpRTIzTEJWWDg2UkdZM2NBT2FsYVcifQ%3D%3D)

**Learning and teaching:** The priority for schools and colleges during January should be to maximise learning and teaching time. Given the move to remote learning and the challenges learners face, the assessment of learner evidence cannot be undertaken unless young people have the foundation of teaching and learning of course content. This will impact on the timing of assessment, which can take place in the later stages of the 2020-21 session.

#### **How do young people in S1, 2 & 3 structure their day?**

They will follow their normal timetable with our Week A and Week B rotation. Next week we are on Week A. As school we are collating the online sessions that are being offered into a master timetable and we intend to share a timetable for each class for Week A and Week B. They will continue to cover new aspects of the curriculum over the coming weeks so it is essential that they do not miss out on this new learning. As above, for each subject there will be three aspects to each subject: New Learning, Feedback/Support, independent tasks.

#### **How will I know if my young person is not completing work on-line?**

We will be using a range of data to monitor engagement and completion of assigned tasks. If your youngster is not accessing their learning then you will receive an email/phone call from a member of school staff to see if there are any issues that we can support with.

#### **What if a member of staff is unwell and unable to go on-line?**

We will alert young people and parents and every effort will be made to have arrangements in place for work to be posted in Teams.

#### **What if my young person does not have access to Wifi?**

Please call the school office and let us know if you require support with this. We have access to alternatives that can support you.

#### **Will work still be posted on Satchel One (Show My Homework)**

Yes. We are asking all staff to post the assignment tasks within Satchel One. We are encouraging all young people and parents/carers to check this on a daily basis.

#### **How can parents/carers support young people?**

It is extremely important that young people engage in the learning. Please encourage your youngster to check that their iPad is charged that their alarm is set for them to be online ready to learn at 9am. We will continue to seek regular feedback on what is working well and what we need to improve.

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**What if I need to contact the school about anything?**

Our office will be staff everyday so please call (Tel: 01573 227440) or Email:KelsoHS@scotborders.gov.uk. If you would like to discuss a pastoral matter relating to your son/daughter then please contact the relevant member of the Pastoral Team:

House	Pastoral Teacher	Email Address
Bowmont	Mr Connell	Allan.Connell@scotborders.gov.uk
Kale	Mr Angus	Tom.Angus@scotborders.gov.uk
Teviot	Miss Roden	Emma.Roden@scotborders.gov.uk

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