



The Gordon Schools
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Pupil Engagement with our S4, S5 & S6 New Senior Phase Classes

I am writing to you today as TGS is keen to ensure that from Tuesday 2nd June, our Senior Phase pupils are engaging with the new learning activities and materials that will support their session 2020/21 subject choices. This is a key time for pupils to be accessing this classwork and communicating with faculty teachers to help them to lay a strong foundation for their future attainment and achievement.

I am aware that some teachers have already utilised on-line platforms to set up new digital 'classrooms,' via Microsoft Teams and Google Classroom, which reflect your child's subject choices. Others have been continuing to try to engage pupils by setting assignments and classwork in their current learning platform.

While it is challenging for us to monitor the extent to which pupils are engaging with learning at home, we are disappointed that a number of our pupils do not appear to have been engaging with the online learning that is being made available to them. We appreciate that for some individuals this could be for very valid reasons, but we are also aware that we do not want any child to be missing out on key learning for the wrong reasons.

As a result of this I would like to ask that you encourage your child to participate in all the learning activities available to them where possible. If your child is having difficulty accessing the resources, or is unable to engage with the learning, please contact the School using the e-mail address: gordonschools.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk as we are able to offer help and support with this. This week's Family Update also contains the offer of 1:1 support with I.T. issues by phone, initially on Thursday 4 June, as a pilot.

Due to the current closure situation, we have not yet been able to contact all pupils with a list confirming the new subjects which they will be studying. This is due to the fact that a small number of our classes are over-subscribed, and we are working hard to resolve this remotely. Once this issue has been resolved we will be in touch to confirm subjects with pupils. In the interim, all pupils will be placed into digital classes for the subjects that they have chosen. Teachers will be ensuring that the pupils who are in the affected class are aware that they may ultimately have to undertake other different subject courses this session where a class is over-subscribed. Thank you for your understanding and support with learning at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Raeside
Depute Head Teacher – *Promoting Learning Partnerships*