

## **Update on Home Learning for the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Many thanks for all you have done over the last week in helping us to deliver effective learning at very short notice. You have been patient, supportive and innovative as always. We could not do this without you. Of course, the start of a new term is always challenging and this one was particularly difficult.

This letter is to outline the plans for the coming weeks and explain how home learning will work in the different year groups across school. We are always looking to improve our delivery of high quality learning and we are mindful of balancing the physical difficulties of home learning with the need of providing engaging and challenging activities across the curriculum.

For this to happen, we would like to make it clear that there will be **no homework** set during this period. Please also remember that the work set for your child will be set via Classwork on Synergy. Your child should be checking this area on Synergy to see what work has been set for each subject.

### **January 2021: What will home learning look like at Longridge High School?**

**All the work and resources that pupils need are uploaded to Synergy in readiness for the school day. It is recommended that pupils follow the timetable as if they were in school as there may be Teams' sessions arranged in the subject periods. Pupils should check-in to Synergy at the start of the day to plan out their learning.**

**Invites to join Teams sessions will be in the Team App as a calendar event or as an invite. Pupils should check Teams on a daily basis to see if they are expected to attend a live session. Registers are taken during these sessions. (Please see our Online Teams Protocol for rules and expectations).**

At Longridge High School, we will be taking a '**blended approach**' to home learning. This has been proven to have the most impact on pupil progress and engagement. This approach means that there will be a blend of face-to-face learning with subject teachers as well as opportunities for independent work which will continue to be set via Synergy. We believe that being constantly in live Teams lessons for 4-5 hours a day is not the healthiest way of learning and does not allow for independence of learning. Please be aware that Teams sessions will not cover the full hour, a recommended and proven approach is as follows:

1. A 15-minute introduction session that allows the teacher to explain the task and for pupils to ask questions.
2. A period of independent working away from the Teams sessions. Teachers will still be available to answer any queries from pupils via Synergy.
3. A 5-minute check-in at the end of the session for any final questions or instructions from the teacher.

This model may not be appropriate for every subject or for every lesson. Therefore, some lessons need to be accessed via Synergy and completely independently. The work set by teachers is planned and designed to last for at least 45 minutes. If your child has completed this work in less time, it may be that they have not completed all the activities as thoroughly as they should. Please encourage them to complete with as much effort as if they were in class.

Where lessons are set via Synergy and not live, subject teachers will be available to respond to pupil messages through Synergy.