



The Winston Churchill School

A Specialist Sports College

Headteacher: Zoë Johnson-Walker

28th January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

We know that it is an exceptionally difficult time for you and your children at the moment. Home Learning continues to be relatively new to children, parents and staff, we are continuing to develop our provision and are grateful for your support so far with our online journey. In the light of yesterday's announcement regarding the continuation of home schooling, we wanted to communicate the successes of the system so far as well as inform you on how we are building an online curriculum for the future.

We are incredibly proud of how the Frog curriculum has developed since March 2019 and we know that staff continue to devise assignments that underpin the curriculum of the classroom as well as support progression of the key skills. Students are engaging in problem solving, application of knowledge and development of skills with regular feedback from their subject teacher. This feedback now takes a variety of forms with increased use of quizzes, verbal commentary from staff and the opportunity to respond to peer's ideas. This provision is accessible to all at a convenient time for each individual student. Alongside this, it allows students to revisit legacy work for further development and provides a tool for revision in the future.

The curricular students are following is the same as they would pursue if they were able to be in school. Therefore, it was essential to us that we had an online curriculum that reflected The Winston Churchill teaching and learning philosophy, ensuring that students had the opportunity to maintain their skills of discovery and enquiry as they would in their lessons on site. The students have responsibility for how they approach their lessons for the day but know that the lessons will follow a familiar format with personalised messages giving direction for the assignment. Staff are available to support this process with discussion either via assignments or Frog messages. There is room for clarification during the fortnightly Teams discussions.

We understand that every student's circumstances are unique and each family faces their own set of challenges in the current lockdown. Our remote learning provision means that students do not need to have access to a device at the same time as their sibling nor do they have to face anxiety about being on a video call for a certain time or length. The Frog curriculum supports students to work at their own pace, stopping or starting to revisit materials and matching their work to their own personal circumstance. Students requiring reasonable adjustments have the opportunity for additional support and guidance, either from staff (via telephone or MS Teams) or from within the home. We appreciate that this is difficult for parents/carers who are working and juggling a multitude of other challenges, however, this is the best way for students to learn, rather than being passive participants in lessons.

The emphasis of the Frog curriculum is on the recognition of student's work and the support they receive so they can continue to progress and improve; it means that interaction is focused on motivation whilst feedback from staff helps students overcome misconceptions. It continues to be a reflective process and we are proud of the achievements of students, supported by their families and staff during this time.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE





We appreciate the demand our approach can place on parents and we value your ongoing support. We encourage you to praise your child for what they do and to discuss with them the work they have completed. If you feel your child could do more, try to reassure them that anything they do will make a difference to their progress. It is possible to pick up their online journey now and their contribution will be received positively by teachers.

Finally, we are constantly developing new additions to Frog to help families work together in these demanding circumstances, these will appear in the 'What's New' section in the parent Frog App. These are created following feedback from staff, students and parents to make the remote experience a smoother one.

Yours sincerely

Mr J French
Deputy Headteacher