

The Link Academy

Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands. DY2 0PB

T: 01384 816500 E: info@thelinkacademy.org.uk

W: www.thelinkacademy.org.uk

Principal: Emma Edwards-Morgan



EEMApr2020/Y10DL
April 2020

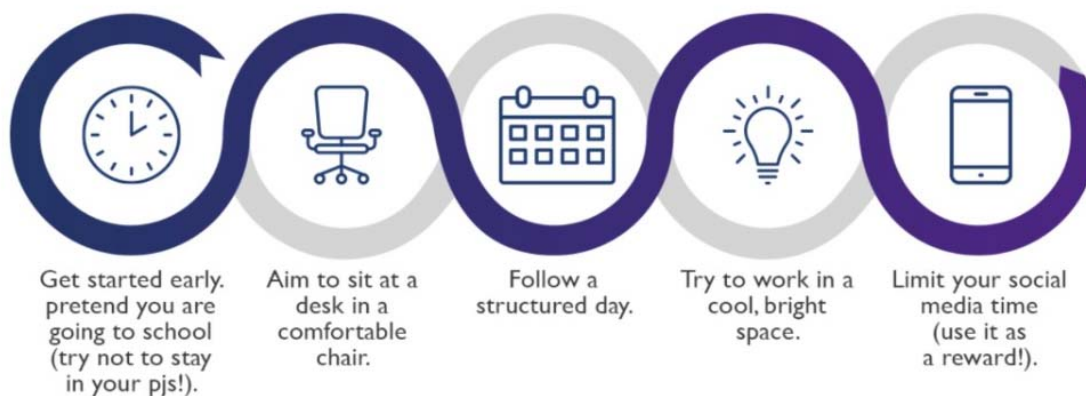
Dear Parent/Carer

Distance Learning – Year 10

Firstly, I hope you and your families are keeping well in these very challenging and concerning times. I know that many of our families have front line workers and I think that I speak on behalf of all of The Link Community when I thank you all for your service and support for us all during the Covid-19 pandemic.

I also would like to thank you for your support in helping your child/children during their distance learning. I am very proud of how The Link Academy staff have risen to the challenge of setting engaging, varied and supportive work for all of our learners during this time. I know that a huge number of our learners have been in fantastic dialogue by email and SMHW to keep in touch with teaching and support staff. My stepson is in Year 10 and I fully appreciate that it isn't always easy to juggle your home life and work commitments with supporting your child. Nevertheless, Year 10 is an absolutely crucial year for your child and it is of upmost importance that they establish and maintain an effective and regular pattern for their distance learning. Our 'video lessons' for English, maths and science have added a more personalised approach to learning and early feedback suggests that our learners are enjoying this style of work. The below graphic outlines some tips that I have personally found helpful as a parent to establish a good routine at home:

Creating the perfect working environment



We are asking our teaching staff to give learners an effort score from 0-5 each week, 0 being incomplete work through to 5, which represents outstanding effort in their learning. We will then use the effort scores to award Amazon Vouchers and prizes to learners for high effort scores and also improving effort. As always our social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube are promoting learner efforts and rewards as well as keeping our community connected at this time.



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We have also been supporting families with ICT access where possible; we only have limited resources but we have tried to prioritise learners that have no device at home to access and complete their work. I realise that during this difficult time, personal circumstances may well change. Please do reach out to us if we can help in anyway by emailing info@thelinkacademy.org.uk; you will also find information on our Academy website with regards to changes to the FSM eligibility criteria.

Lastly, I would like to reassure you that we are working with examination boards to look at the approach to supporting your child to achieve the best qualifications that they can and further information will be provided in due course. In the meantime, learners will hugely benefit from remaining focussed on their distance learning, submitting their work via SMHW and liaising directly with their teachers where necessary. At the moment it will still be our intention to hold PPE (mock) examinations in November for Year 10 and therefore all work will contribute to your child's preparation for these crucial assessments.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Emma Edwards-Morgan
Principal



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