

Thursday 31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the updated government guidance on 30th December, I am writing to inform you of changes to the start of term arrangements.

As announced yesterday afternoon, other than 'vulnerable' pupils and the children of critical workers, all other year groups will not return to school until **at least Monday 18th January**. The parents and carers of children in the 'vulnerable' and critical worker categories have already been contacted to confirm the arrangements for their return to school.

We will be offering remote learning for all pupils from Monday 4th January via Google Classroom. All pupils will follow the same timetable to ensure that everyone is able to access the same learning. **It is really important that pupils access the lessons provided, so that they are not at a disadvantage when they return to school.**

Important Risk Assessment Update

We have again reviewed our Risk Assessments in advance of pupils returning to school. As a result, we will be asking that all pupils and staff wear a **mask or visor at all times, including during lessons**, unless they are medically exempt from doing so. Face coverings should not include images or words that are inappropriate for a school setting. This is another step to try and further reduce the chance of transmission of Covid-19 in school. We thank you in advance for your support and ask that you please ensure that your son or daughter has a clean mask each morning.

Testing

As outlined in our previous letter, we will be in contact after the start of term with further information regarding testing.

Google Classroom - Remote Learning Support and Guidance

As you know, we place an emphasis on the learning our pupils experience here at Turner Free School, alongside a focus on welfare. During this challenging time, we are trying hard to ensure that pupils continue to have access to high quality learning opportunities in order to limit, as much as we can, any negative impact on their academic education.

To support pupils continuing to learn at home, we suggest that they follow a weekly timetable, which includes lessons for all subjects. Each lesson will include watching a short video, completing any set tasks, and completing a multiple-choice quiz (MCQ). Lessons should take a maximum of between 45-60 minutes. Below is a suggested timetable and includes time for DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) as well as free time and catch-up time.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
1	English	Maths	English	English	PE
2	Maths	Geography	French	French	Maths
3	Science	History	Science	Geography	Science
4	Art	Bedrock Vocabulary	History	Classics	Bedrock Vocabulary
5	RE	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR
6	Music	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Catch Up

We understand that it may not always be possible to follow this timetable; however, it is important that pupils try to follow the required lessons outlined below for each subject:

x3 lessons English with MCQs

x2 lessons Bedrock Vocab (posted to English Google Classroom)

x3 lessons Maths with MCQs

x3 lessons Science with MCQs

x2 lessons French with MCQ

x2 lessons History with MCQ

x2 lessons Geography with MCQ

x1 lesson Music with MCQ

x1 lesson Classics with MCQ

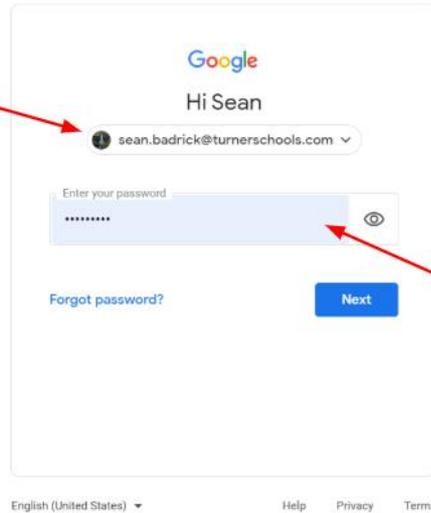
x1 lesson Art with MCQ

X1 lesson of PE

The timetable retains some similarities with a usual school day at TFS. Whereas in school, pupils complete 30 lessons over the course of the week, the home learning timetable includes 21 lessons to allow for some of the challenges of home learning. Friday is relatively light allowing time to complete any missed MCQs from the week. Teachers will check that MCQs have been completed at the end of each Friday. If pupils do not engage with the materials in this way, and we are concerned that they are not taking part in the learning, we will be in contact to check that everything is OK and to ascertain whether further support is needed.

All resources required are accessible via Google Classrooms. This can be reached by logging into the school Google account.

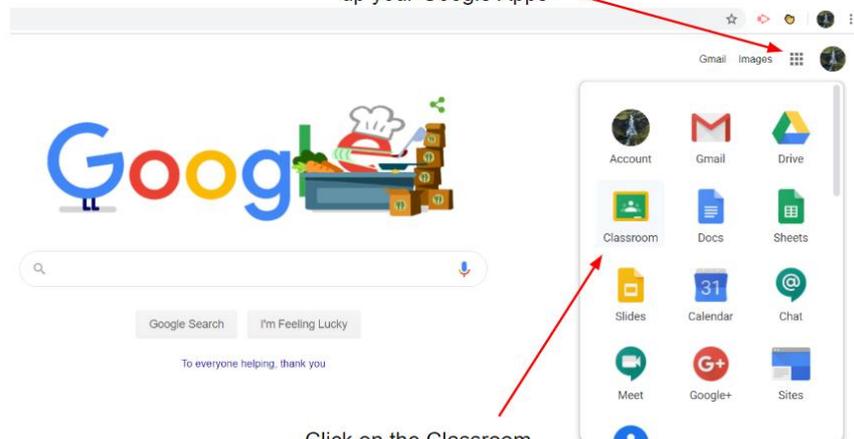
Use your school
google account



The screenshot shows the Google login interface. At the top, it says "Google" and "Hi Sean". Below that, there is a dropdown menu showing the email address "sean.badrick@turnerschools.com". Underneath is a password field with the text "Enter your password" and a masked password "*****". To the right of the password field is an eye icon. Below the password field is a "Forgot password?" link and a blue "Next" button. At the bottom of the page, there are links for "English (United States)", "Help", "Privacy", and "Terms".

Type in your account
password

Click on this icon to open
up your Google Apps



Click on the Classroom
icon to open up your
subject classrooms

Teachers will upload lessons, tasks and MCQs to each subject Google Classroom. These are found under your child's year group and then subject. Pupils should check their 'To Do' list on the homepage at the beginning of each day. Google Classroom will also be the main communication tool with teachers. Teachers will post their 'working hours' which will be the best times for you to contact them with any questions or queries.

Support with questions about Google Classroom

The school website has a guide for parents in the first instance of any IT issues with pupil accounts. If your child requires a password reminder, please email your request to passwordreset@turnerschools.com.

For enquiries related to Google Classroom such as issues logging on or finding work, or if you have an enquiry related to a specific subject, please email the staff member assigned to your year group as outlined below. Please include the subject so that your query can be passed on to the appropriate member of staff where necessary and your email will be replied to within 48 hours:

Year 7: Mrs Feldman (victoria.feldman@turnerschools.com)

Year 8: Miss Hadley (navana.hadley@turnerschools.com)

Year 9: Mr Attrill (alex.attrill@turnerschools.com)

Pastoral Support

If you have concerns about your child's wellbeing, please contact:

Year 7: Mrs Clifford (mariea.clifford@turnerschools.com)

Year 8: Miss Brown (sharon.brown@turnerschools.com)

Year 9: Mrs Dempsey (kate.dempsey@turnerschools.com)

Parental Support

As parents, you can support your child in their home learning by:

- Providing your child with a quiet space to work.
- Removing distractions (at school, mobile phones are switched off all day).
- Using the timetable to help your child organise their day, including time for breaks.
- Restricting other activities (such as gaming, socialising).
- Asking your child to show you what work they have completed/ talk you through what they have learned.
- Making sure pupils check their school emails in order to keep up to date with any updates.

We would like to thank all of our parents/guardians for the essential support you will now provide in ensuring the education of your child does not suffer due to these exceptional circumstances. We understand that this will be a stressful and uncertain time for everyone, so please contact us if you have any concerns or questions. Remember, the timetable provided is a suggestion and does not need to be adhered to exactly. Lessons and MCQs can be completed at any time in the week that is convenient.

As always, if you have any questions, please get in contact with us via tfsadmin@turnerschools.com or via your child's Pastoral Leader (emails listed above).

With best wishes for a healthy and happy 2021.

Yours faithfully

Kristina Yates
Principal