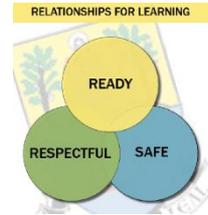




CGI

Scottish Borders COUNCIL



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are all well and are managing to find a way through these challenging days. I have never felt so proud of our students and our staff as I have in recent weeks- nor so grateful for the support of our families. I thank you all for what you are doing to keep everything going.

The school is closed but the truly dedicated staff of Selkirk High School are working flat out, utterly determined to emerge from this crisis stronger than ever. It's inspiring to see how so many of our students are responding to this challenge- with energy, creativity, diligence- and values in action!

As ever our priority is making sure, as best we can, that everyone's ok. We are also continuing with a range of school improvement priorities. Our current focus, in addition to completing SQA estimates, is on Homelearning for S1/2/3 and Homelearning for the new S4/5/6 classes which we aim to set up with students next week with a view to starting from 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Please see below updates on BGE and Senior Phase Homelearning.

I look forward to seeing our wonderful students back at the school before too long. In the meantime, I wish you the very best,

Jamie Bryson

### SENIOR PHASE - NEW S4/5/6 2020-21

- Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> May

- New S4/5/6 pupils will be contacted this week via Show My Homework/Microsoft Teams by their new class teachers. Pupils should ensure they respond to their teacher. This will enable us to use next week to iron out any technical issues.

-If your child has not heard from their Pastoral Teacher regarding their course choice this means all of the choices they made are going ahead.

-If your child cannot remember the subjects they opted for in the Senior Phase then please contact either Mr Lee or Mrs Fagan.

- Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May

-New Senior Phase virtual learning will begin. Teachers will be setting approximately 3 hours of work (per subject) for pupils to complete over the course of the week.

-As with the BGE timetables, the Homelearning Timetable for S4/5/6 sent out on the first day of school closure provides an **optional** structure for the week

If you have any questions with the work or in using SMH or Teams please contact your teacher.

### BGE S1/2/3

-Well done to Parents and Carers: supporting Homelearning is not easy (as plenty of teachers including Mr Bryson know rather too well!). The particular circumstances of some families, for example where parents are key workers, can make things extremely challenging. We ask our young people to do their best- and that's all we can expect of ourselves as well!

-We have had some feedback from parents saying Homelearning is too much, other feedback saying it's not enough and also feedback saying it's about right! Every family has different responsibilities and pressures at this time - and getting it right for everyone is really hard for teachers: please contact your child's pastoral teacher- Mr Lee or Mrs Fagan- so we can make helpful changes to suit you.

- The Health and Wellbeing of students and their families is the priority: please do not hesitate to inform pastoral staff if any aspect of Homelearning or your child's health and wellbeing is a concern to you.

-We are making changes from next week to ensure students don't get an avalanche of homelearning deadlines at the same time.

-Students are not expected to work at weekends or holidays.

-Please remember that the Timetables are optional: they hope to give a structure to families if it's helpful; they also help teachers ensure students don't get work all at once. SBC recommend approximately 3 hours of work per day for S1/2/3.

-If ShowMyHomework notifications are driving you crazy, you can switch off the option. Contact your child's Pastoral Teacher – either Mr Lee or Mrs Fagan - if you need help with this.

-If you need jotters, paper etc please contact either Mr Lee or Mrs Fagan and we'll work out how to provide what you need.

-S1 and S2 BGE Homelearning continues until the change of timetable in early June

-S3 students will move to S4 wb 4<sup>th</sup> May- see Senior Phase update above.