

## *Reporting Positive Covid-19 Tests*

Please note that it is essential that we are informed if any of our students test positive for Covid-19, even if that student is learning from home and not attending school.

You can do this by either:

- Emailing your child's Tutor
- Emailing your child's Head of Year
- Emailing: [safeguarding@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

## *Poltair Hub - Essential Childcare*

If a child falls in to the category of **vulnerable** or has parents who are **critical workers** then they may attend the school. The students will be supervised in this provision to access school work.

A link to a booking form will be sent out every Monday and will need to be completed by midday on the Wednesday of that week to secure a place for the following week. The link will be sent via text message, it will also be shared on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)

## *Tutor Meetings*

Each week, students will be invited to an online tutor meeting with their form tutor.

The meetings will take place via Microsoft Teams.

This will provide a good opportunity for us to check in with how students are managing their workload and to address any issues that they might have. Your child's form tutor should be the first point of contact for any support.

**The Tutor Meetings will take place on the following days (specific times to follow):**

**Year 7 - Fridays**

**Year 8 - Thursdays**

**Year 9 - Wednesdays**

**Year 10 - Tuesdays**

**Year 11 - Mondays**

## *Free School Meals*

We are awaiting further Government guidance on the provision for students on the Free School Meal register. Once that is confirmed we will notify parents and administer accordingly.

# Remote Learning



I am sure you can appreciate that we are all operating in a very challenging world at the moment. I would like to reassure you that we are working as hard as and as quick as we can to meet the ever-changing guidance from the government. Our aim is to give the very best learning experience for all our students, but this takes time and planning. If we work together, I am sure we can achieve our goal.

One of the many challenges we face is the debate around the best **type** of delivery. We know that some parents would like us to be delivering live lessons via the Internet, in the same way that we would teach a timetable in school. Some would prefer pre-recorded lesson segments from teachers, so that it gives flexibility in the household of when learning can be accessed. Some would like hard-copy resources, so screens do not need to be used at all and I am sure that some of you have other thoughts about how you would like learning to be offered...

It would be unreasonable to expect us to provide such a large variety of styles for every lesson, but we are committed to offering the full range across the timetable and to addressing any issues that a student might face when accessing learning from home.

## **What can you expect for remote learning?**

Every student will be set five hours of remote learning daily. An outline of the work set by each subject will be posted on Class Charts, so that students and parents can see what each day entails. We will be moving the setting of all learning activities to Microsoft Teams over the next two weeks, but in the meantime we will also be duplicating the resources on the overview on Class Charts whilst we work to solve any access issues.

We have asked staff to increase the amount of pre-recorded introductory sessions or live introductory sessions which can be accessed through Microsoft Teams at the start of lessons. They will then be setting learning activities that students can complete independently, asking for teacher support when needed. All teachers can be emailed for help between the hours of 8.30 and 3.00; all staff email addresses can be found on our website. In addition, there will be a live tutor session for all students, every week, that we want all students to join. An invite to the tutor sessions will come via Microsoft Teams.

We will continue to share, with parents and students, guidance on how to access remote learning resources. If you have any concerns about the remote learning set for your child, please can you email me: [cwhite@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:cwhite@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk) so that I can respond to you directly and promptly.

Miss C White  
Deputy Headteacher

## *Access to a Suitable Device for Remote Learning*

The Government has announced that they will ensure that any student that requires a laptop to access learning remotely, has one. So far, we have been allocated 118 laptops which would meet the needs of 15% of our school population. Some of them were received on Monday and are in the process of being configured for issuing, the rest were delivered today. From a recent audit that we did with all students, we know that this leaves us approximately 270 laptops short, to fully meet the needs of our community. With this in mind, we know we have to offer a range of ways to access learning, to ensure fair provision to all of our students.

We do know that most households have access to the Internet, at least via a smart phone, and that there is further government support available to increase free data to households that we can access (see below). The school has full access to Office 365 which students can log in to with their usual school email address. This will enable them to access Microsoft Teams, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and the Student SharePoint area easily. To log-in, students need to visit [www.office.com](http://www.office.com) and use the email address and password that they would use to log-in to a school computer.

### **Device Audit**

If your child does not have access to a suitable device to work on from home, please can you complete the form in the link below no later than **12pm on Tuesday 12th January**. If you have more than one child at the school, please complete one form for each child. This will help us support households with more than one learner who are struggling to complete online learning on limited devices.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FORM](#)

### **Device Loan Scheme**

We will be in a position to offer the following, once needs have been prioritised:

- Laptops
- Dongles
- Re-purposed keyboards to use with an X Box or Playstation

You will be sent a text message to identify allocated items for your child. You will then be able to arrange a time to collect them from our Reception, at your convenience.

On arrival, you will be asked to sign two contracts; one to be retained in school and one for you to keep. This will confirm that you have taken receipt of the equipment, on a loan basis, and that you accept responsibility for the item(s). You will then be given the items, along with a 'How to' help-sheet, to assist with the set-up.

These loans are in place until July 2021, but will be reviewed when necessary.

## *Additional Data Allowance Request*

The DfE (Department for Education) are running a pilot scheme to support increasing children and young people's access to increased mobile data allowances. This is to support their home learning whilst not able to access schools.

This scheme is open to children and young people who:

- Don't have access to a fixed broadband connection
- Cannot afford the additional data needed to access educational resources or social care services
- Have access to a mobile device that uses a participating network
- Are facing disruption to their face-to-face education, or have been advised not to attend school

Information that will be needed in order for us to request additional mobile data includes:

- The account holder's name
- Their mobile number (a number beginning with '07')
- Their mobile network
- Whether they pay monthly or "pay as you go"

The offers currently available can be seen below. At this time, there are no other offers available.

It is also requested that you read through the [Privacy Policy](#) before making any form of decision.

If this is something you feel you are entitled to access, please [CLICK HERE](#) to enter some information to support your request. Please ensure this is completed no later than 3pm on Wednesday 13th January, to enable us to upload to the DfE.

We will monitor the link responses at the end of each week to update any further requests made.



The recipient will get 20GB of additional data per month until 31 July 2021.

The offer is available to both Pay Monthly and Pay-as-you-go customers.

A text message will be sent to the nominated device once the additional data has been added to the account.

EE will process no more than 60,000 requests across all schools. If they reach this limit, they will not accept further requests.

Be aware that until the end of January, it may take EE some time to process requests.



The recipient will get 20GB of additional data per month until 31 July 2021.

The offer is only available to Pay Monthly customers identified as needing this support. It's not available to Pay-as-you-go customers.

A text message will be sent to the nominated device once the additional data has been added to the account.

Tesco Mobile will aim to process the request within 14 days.

Tesco Mobile will process no more than 1,000 requests across all schools. If they reach this limit, they will not accept further requests



The recipient will get 100GB of additional data.

The offer is only available to Pay Monthly customers identified as needing this support. It's not available to Pay-as-you-go customers.

Sky Mobile customers will be able to see the data uplift in their piggybank.

Sky Mobile will aim to process the request within 14 days.

Sky Mobile will process no more than 1800 requests across all schools. If they reach this limit, they will not accept further requests.



The recipient will get unlimited data until 31 July 2021.

The offer is available to both Pay Monthly and Pay-as-you-go customers.

A text message will be sent to the nominated device once the additional data has been added to the account.

Smarty will aim to process the request within 14 days.



The recipient will get 20GB of additional data per month until 31 July 2021.

The offer is only available to Pay Monthly customers identified as needing this support. It's not available to Pay-as-you-go customers.

A text message will be sent to the nominated device once the additional data has been added to the account.

Virgin Mobile will aim to process the request within 14 days. Virgin Mobile will process no more than 1750 requests across all schools. If they reach this limit, they will not accept further requests.

Wi-Fi hotspots are open to all existing customers, including those on Pay-as-you-go. Customers on Pay-as-you-go will need to have a minimum of £5 credit. Instructions to download the app and find their nearest hotspot can be found by going to: [www.virginmedia.com/wifiapp](http://www.virginmedia.com/wifiapp)



The recipient will get unlimited data until 31 July 2021.

The offer is available to both Pay Monthly and Pay-as-you-go customers.

A text message will be sent to the nominated device once the additional data has been added to the account.

Three will aim to process the request within 14 days.

We fully appreciate the challenges that Home Learning can present, but have been very impressed with how well students are adapting to a new way of learning. Each week we will showcase a different subject, to show you some examples of the great work our young learners are doing from home.

## Remote Learning - Art

In this week's Art Lessons, students were asked to look at the work of Charlie Mackesy - the illustrator who, during the first lockdown, started creating quick images of thanks for different key workers.

They have been asked to think about who they would thank and then send their illustrations to us.

Miss Pearson has created an [Instagram page](#) to share students' work.

Below are some examples of students' work.

Top row, from left to right: Luke Callingham, Ethan Martin & Lauranne Rowe

Bottom row, from left to right: Kyle Rayner, Tabitha Snow & Perran Bate

