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18 September 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

The theme of this week's update is Supporting Learning at Home. Your young person has access to a number of online resources which I would like to make you aware of. They may have accessed these before the summer, however these resources can also help our young people consolidate their learning at home. I appreciate that some of you may still have issues accessing technology at home and if this is still the case please get in touch with us on the school e-mail address.

Support for Parents:

You may be aware to the Scottish Parent Council Website CONNECT. This provides lot of information on a variety of topics which you may find useful. The link below takes you to the learning at home section.

<https://www.connect.scot/parent/learning-at-home>

Support for your young person – some useful links

Your young person has access to a wide variety of resources some which are open to everyone and some which have password access:



All pupils have a password to access for use in school and at home. As well as providing access to lots of resources, it also provides access to Office 365 as well as lots of links to other sites.



Senior phase pupils should have their password to scholar for a number of their subjects. When they have logged in once, they can then click on the Scholar tile on GLOW. This is a superb resource and is specifically tailored to the subjects they are doing. Evidence shows that using this tool to consolidate learning improves grades by at least one band in SQA results.



Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is resource that is used by all S1 pupils and some S2 and S3 pupils. It supports developing literacy skills for all and helps pupils access all areas of the curriculum, not just English. Have a chat with your young person on what they are reading and how they are getting on with this.

Some links that pupils may find useful:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> - suitable for all levels and ages – remember to select the curriculum relevant to Scotland.

<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>

<https://www.national5maths.co.uk/free-national-5-maths-2/>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

Your young person's teachers will be highlighting lots of resources available to them. However, these may help you to see what they are doing if they are asking for help.

College Pupil Support

Please access Nescol Helplines:

studenthelpdesk@nescol.ac.uk

studentadvice@nescol.ac.uk

A photo of your young person's Young Scot card will be required to give them permission to change a password or unlock an account.

Tracking and monitoring your young person's progress :

We will be issuing tracking reports through out the year to let you know how things are going. These are brief reports and there will be opportunities to get in touch if you have any concerns. In addition to this if we have concerns in between the reporting periods, we will be in touch with you.

Some key dates for you:

Friday 25 September	Senior Phase Tracking Report 1 issued
Thursday 8 October	S1 Tracking Report 1 issued
Friday 9 October 2020	End of term 1
12 to 23 October 2020	October Holidays
Friday 13 November	S2 Tracking Report 1 issued
Friday 20 November 2020	Inservice day – staff only
Friday 27 November	Senior Phase Tracking Report 2 issued
Thursday 10 December	S3 Tracking Report 1 issued
Friday 18 December 2020	End of term 2
21 Dec 2020 to 4 Jan 2021	Christmas holiday

Please note we have an Inservice Day on Friday 20th November only not as previously printed due to the extra Inservice Day we had in August.

Digital Leaders

We are looking to recruit a number of new Digital Leaders from S1 and S2 to join our existing group of S3-6 Digital Leaders. If your young person feels that they have strong ICT skills and are good at helping others then this could be a great opportunity to get involved with. As well as supporting staff and other students with any ICT issues, they may be asked to help with whole school events such as internet safety day and also our aim to get Turriff Academy accredited with the Digital Schools' Award. If your young person is interested please encourage them to complete an application form which is available on their PSE Team and email it to Mrs Clarke by the end of the day Tuesday 22nd September.

And finally....

Congratulations to the following seniors who after interview have been appointed to the following posts with in Turriff Academy.

Craigston

Captain : Jack Mcallister
Deputies : Katie Cornfield
Beth Sivewright

Delgaty

Captain : Amelia Jane Rodgers
Deputies : Hannah Boon
Grace Metson
Jessica Taylor

Forglen

Captain : Shania Grieve
Deputies : Jaron Frerichs
Sophie Smith

Hatton

Captain : Josh Andrews
Deputies : Daniel Bennet
Inga Hardie
Sophie- Ann Macdonald

I look forward to working with them all in the year ahead.

Regards

Ms L Menzies