



CULLODEN ACADEMY ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING GUIDE

MAY 2020

AIMS: To provide guidance of expectations for online learning and teaching.
To highlight health and wellbeing for staff, pupils and parents/carers.

Over the past few weeks, staff, pupils and parents/carers have been adjusting to a very different way of learning and teaching. Online learning is new for all of us. Feedback from all parties has helped Culloden Academy look at how we can try to get the balance right in terms of expectations of pupils with online learning whilst ensuring that the health and wellbeing of all is supported. Given the current circumstances, it is unreasonable and impractical to be expecting pupils to be engaging for their full class time when working from home. We are therefore looking for pupils to do the best that they can in these circumstances, and to work together to support one another.

Staff, pupils and parents / carers should bear in mind that:

- All pupils should register each day by completing the form in their PSE Google classroom.
- Learning at home in these circumstances is not the same as a “normal” school day. Nobody is expected to sit at a screen for a whole day.
- Work issued will build on prior learning, be of good quality and will be accessible to all.
- Pupils are encouraged to complete their learning activities, using the times suggested as a guide, but need to maintain their health and wellbeing.
- Pupils can access support during school hours from their class teacher, from their Guidance Teacher or their Year Head. Pupils who access Support For Learning in school can also contact their Support For Learning teacher.
- Learning at home provides all pupils with the opportunity to be flexible in terms of how they manage their time, and to develop a range of skills.
- Pupils in S2 and S3 can capture their successes by updating their profiles in their PSE classrooms.

In setting work, staff are mindful of the following issues:

- Making the work accessible to all pupils.
- How much time the work should take for pupils to complete it.
- What feedback can be given to pupils.

Pupil Engagement:

The responsibility for this ultimately lies with the parent / carer for younger pupils, and with the pupils in S5 and S6 themselves. Parents / carers are asked to encourage their child to register, check Google classrooms for tasks set and to help pupils plan how they will complete their work. Pupils are encouraged to seek help if they are struggling with work, as indicated above.

Points to bear in mind:

- These are challenging times. Motivation amongst pupils will vary, and different households will face different pressures.
- Parents / carers are not expected to be their child's teacher. Having a routine that works in their household is important. Being online all of the time is not advisable for health and wellbeing, it is not required in order to complete tasks, and bandwidth / data does not need to be used up by being online all day.
- Keeping up with work set on Google classroom is encouraged to help make the transition back to school – when the time comes – smoother for all concerned.
- There is not an expectation for teachers to be delivering lessons face-to-face.
- Some pupils may wish to do more work than is being set by teachers. This is absolutely fine. There are various resources available across a number of platforms to encourage this.

Whether adding to their learning profile, or starting to build up their personal statements / CVs, pupils can use this opportunity to build up skills developed in a number of ways:

- Physical activity – e.g. how long they can “plank” for.
- Reading – free online books are available.
- Gardening – indoors and outdoors.
- Supporting others with their work online.
- Helping with siblings or other family members.
- Baking or cooking.
- Solving puzzles.
- Learning how to use new technology and showing other family members.

HOW MUCH TIME PUPILS SHOULD BE SPENDING ON SCHOOL WORK

This may vary per subject, but as a rough guide, pupils should expect the following in terms of work:

BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION - S1 and S2

- Staff will set a maximum of up to one hour per subject each week, with the exception of English and Maths, who will set work for two hours per week.
- Work will be set at the beginning of the week, with an indication of how long the work should take to complete.

- Pupils can be flexible in terms of when they complete their work over the course of the week.
- Opportunities for pupils to engage further in the subject can be offered, but this is not a requirement on the part of pupils.
- To promote health and wellbeing, the expectation is that pupils will aim to be active for up to an hour a day, following advice on social distancing appropriately.

BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION – S3

Expectations for S3 pupils are essentially the same as for S2 pupils. However, since they have fewer subjects on their curriculum, they might wish to use some additional resources in subjects they particularly enjoy. S3 pupils are also encouraged to capture their skills and achievements and include them on their online profile.

SENIOR PHASE

S4 pupils will be studying National courses which may include a blend of different levels. They should expect the following:

- Staff will set a maximum of three hours per week per subject.
- Work will be set at the beginning of the week, with an indication of how long the work should take to complete.
- Pupils can be flexible in terms of when they complete their work over the course of the week.
- Opportunities for pupils to engage further in the subject can be offered, but this is not a requirement on the part of pupils.
- To promote health and wellbeing, the expectation is that pupils will aim to be active for up to an hour a day, following advice on social distancing appropriately.

S5 pupils may be studying all or mostly Highers, a blend of Higher and National courses, college courses or online courses. They should expect the following:

- For Higher courses, staff will set a maximum of four hours per week per subject.
- Work will be set at the beginning of the week, with an indication of how long the work should take to complete.
- Pupils can be flexible in terms of when they complete their work over the course of the week.
- Opportunities for pupils to engage further in the subject can be offered, but this is not a requirement on the part of pupils.
- To promote health and wellbeing, the expectation is that pupils will aim to be active for up to an hour a day, following advice on social distancing appropriately.

S6 pupils are likely to be studying a blend of courses. Expectations for Higher and National courses are listed above.

- For Advanced Higher courses, staff will set a maximum of four hours per week per subject.
- Work will be set at the beginning of the week, with an indication of how long the work should take to complete.
- Pupils can be flexible in terms of when they complete their work over the course of the week.
- Given the focus on independent learning with Advanced Highers, pupils are encouraged to make the most of resources that are suggested to them.
- To promote health and wellbeing, the expectation is that pupils will aim to be active for up to an hour a day, following advice on social distancing appropriately.

Appendix

The following sites may be useful sources of information:

Highland Council Digital Learning Highland Digital Resources

<https://sites.google.com/millburnacademy.org.uk/highlanddigitalschoolshub/home>

Support for Mental Health and Wellbeing from CAMHS

<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/>

National Parent Forum of Scotland

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/>

BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Free video resources that would suit N5 pupils but may also interest other pupils

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fopen.online.clickview.co.uk%2Flibraries%2Fcategories%2F26212354%2Fyear-10-11-gcse-national-5-%3Fsort%3Dproductionyear&data=02%7C01%7C%7C3c90873681ee4d989fa308d7ec3a65a3%7C89f0b56e6d164fe89dba176fa940f7c9%7C0%7C0%7C637237607862785542&sdata=gino2wGcVvXrpo3j4%2BXv3gN4hl5tWfujG6vWBeRB0mI%3D&reserved=0>