Dene Magna School online learning offer

January 2021 lockdown

It builds on the lessons we learnt from the last lockdown and we feel it shows you that our offer is excellent and that we are supporting students in a robust manner.

1. What is our offer?

At Dene Magna School, our online offer means that ALL students will still be taught in live lessons by their teachers. We do this using Google Meet and Google Classroom, both of which are safe to use because they link to the student and staff accounts. Staff have all been trained on the use of these platforms and we continue to work on our own CPD so that we can ensure that these lessons are the best they can be.

Any student who does not have access to the technology needed to work online is allocated a Chromebook from the school and, where needed, the school will issue wireless 'dongles' to help with connectivity.

Students follow their normal curriculum and lessons but we do move to 50 minute lessons to allow staff and students a comfort break and to reduce exposure to screens for long periods of time.

The school is open to vulnerable children and those of critical workers and we ensure that there is in class support for these students. Every child on the SEND register is allocated a key worker and they check in to ensure students are accessing their learning. Students with EHCPs will continue to work with their allocated TA (where applicable). TAs are all working online and are available to support students in lessons. Students in receipt of the Pupil Premium remain a primary focus in all that we do (including feedback and support). Risk Assessments have been updated for our EHCP students and vulnerable students who are NOT in school.

To support wellbeing and safeguarding, we start every day with a check in for tutors. Any issues can then be flagged up to the pastoral team and we also operate an immediate contact policy regarding non-attendance to online lessons.

We continue to have dialogue with parents/carers and students so that we can make any changes based upon feedback.

Every PP student has been allocated a device if they do not already have a school Chromebook.

Every non PP student without a device has been allocated one.

2. What is our timetable?

RFL	1	2	Break	3	Lunch	4	5
9.00 -	9.10 -	10.10 -	11.00 -	11.35 –	12.25 –	13.05 –	14.05 –
9.10	10.00	11.00	11.35	12.25	13.05	13.55	14.55

We are following our normal school curriculum so that we can ensure that the students are still having a broad diet of lessons. Practical lessons are obviously an issue, but where possible, we are getting students to make and do (cooking and PE being good examples).

Music lessons are still taking place but we have sadly had to suspend our community offer.

3. How are we keeping people safe?

We have updated the Risk Assessment once again (available online) and we continue to monitor the wellbeing of the students and staff.

As said, RFL sessions ensure we have conversations with students and we continue to register students as normal on Progresso. Attendance is monitored daily and lesson by lesson discrepancies are picked up by the pastoral team.

The safeguarding email continues to be shared, as do the contact details for key staff.

A survey has been shared with students (15th Jan) to get their views on online learning and to also get some information on safeguarding and working conditions at home. The aim will be to provide support where needed. In some cases, this will be delivering exam desks to a house to ensure a child has a place to work.

4. Staff and student wellbeing

We are having a weekly initiative on wellbeing. The first was to finish early on Wednesday and we will publish the follow weeks to staff and the community.

5. How do we know it is working?

Feedback from staff has been very positive. As has feedback from parents/carers.

As said, we are surveying students and parents for their views as we go.

Every child missing a lesson is chased by the attendance team and supported to engage. Non engaging students are allocated a place in school should they not be able to work effectively at home.