11 May 2020

Dear Year 9 students, parents and carers,

I hope you and your families are well and you enjoyed the bank holiday weekend. Welcome to week four of online learning, I hope you are now feeling more confident using GCSEPod and Teams. I am still extremely proud of the way you are dealing with online learning and how hard you are working. Our message remains the same and you can only do what you can with the resources and abilities available to you.

We recommend you spend approximately three hours a day on schoolwork with one hour on each subject. Please try not to worry about your work and remember staff are here to support you. Many of you have contacted me saying you are feeling a bit overwhelmed as you are struggling to manage your time and I have suggested creating a timetable. This will help ensure you stick to the recommended times for working and will also give you a schedule to follow.

Here is an example of a simple timetable you may wish you use. You can of course change the times and the subjects you do each day.

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| **Day**  | **10:00-11:00 a.m.**  | **11:30 a.m. - 12:30 a.m.**  | **1:30 p.m.**  | **1:45 - 2:45 p.m.**  |
| Monday  | English  | DT  |   | Art  |
| Tuesday  | Maths  | Humanities  |   | Food  |
| Wednesday  | Computing  | Languages  | Tutor Time  | Drama  |
| Thursday  | Science  | Music  |   | Catch up time  |
| Friday  | Humanities  | PE  | Tutor Time  | Catch up time  |

If you have subject specific questions or need any help with your assignments, please use the Team chat to ask your teacher. If you have any general school issues or you are having problems with Teams or GCSEPod please contact us at info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk  We want you to feel supported and we will do whatever we can to help you at this difficult time.

Remember to do something you enjoy every day if you possibly can. You could phone a family member or a friend you haven’t spoken to for a while, go for a walk, go for a bike ride, watch a film, watch an episode of your favourite series, listen to music, play an instrument, play a game with your family, draw, paint, bake, craft, knit, complete a workout or do some yoga. These are activities that will make your day more ‘normal’ and make you feel more positive.

Please remember our Tutor Time on Wednesday and Friday at 1:30 p.m. which gives you the opportunity to catch up with your tutor and stay connected with friends within your form class.

Take care and I hope you have a good week

Ms Warren
Student Progress Leader Year 9