

We know how difficult it can be during lockdown with lack of laptops, Wi-Fi issues, logging in issues, Microsoft Teams, Class Charts, invites, submissions, phone calls and emails from us... and lots of uncertainty!

Thank you for your very positive responses to our survey. Please find responses to some of the questions asked.

Can we have more laptops?

We are trying!

So far, we have given out 243 laptops and 50 data dongles to students. In addition, we have processed 80 requests for more mobile data from phone companies.

We have asked the Government for 250 more laptops, (to make sure everyone has their own device).

We have also placed another order for another 70 laptops (from our own funding) which can be loaned from SWB to our students. (Supply is very limited across the country at the moment).

Can we have more help logging in to ICT?

Yes, we now have more staff monitoring and responding on the helpdesk@oswba.co.uk email, plus we are using ICT teaching staff to support, with calls home, sharing their technical expertise

Can we have more paper work-packs?

Yes, please contact your Director of Year. If needed paperwork packs can sent out every week. To ensure students get feedback they need to be posted back to us (SAE are now included) or dropped into reception

Can you set some work, which is away from the screen?

Yes, the live lesson should be an introduction to the tasks. The task should then be able to be completed in books or on answer sheets. (This is not always the case, some work is required to be completed on a computer).

In future, we will also be setting some project work, away from the computer screens.

Can the students have a 1-2-1 check in to discuss any concerns?

Yes. Students are invited every week during their C.O.R.E. lesson. Students are invited to the drop in session to share any worries or concerns they may have. – This is in addition to the weekly welfare calls home, all students receive.

Can we have some more exercise books at home?

Yes. Exercise books are available for collection in Reception.

Please email your Director of Year or Head of Year and we can make the arrangements.

Can we have more 'live' lessons & Can we have less 'live' lessons?

Difficult to answer this one!

The Teams lesson should be between 10 – 20 minutes long (usually), then the 'live' element will end. Some teachers may stay online and answer questions (in the 'chat' section) some may log off and answer questions via email

Can the students have some PE practical activities?

Yes.

All Year 7/8/9 students are having 2 x practical lessons/activities a week.

Key Stage 4 (Year 10 & 11) are examination subjects so it's slightly different, but we will ask PE staff for more practical activities.

Can we have Revision Guides for Year 10 & Year 11?

Yes. These are on order. We will start delivering these during Half term or the week after, depending on suppliers.

Can we have the GCSE texts for English?

Yes. We will start delivering these shortly.

Can you record Teams lessons, so students can revisit and re-watch later?

All Teams lessons are recorded for Safeguarding purposes.

They are available for 7 days in the 'chat' function on Microsoft Teams.

I am worried about my child. They are struggling with being in the house so much, not seeing friends and family and the worries of school work and learning. Can I get them any help?

Yes: You can email Safeguarding@oswba.co.uk, or their Head of Year and ask for help. Or you can access help yourself form a range of external providers. Details of which are on the website safeguarding section, or follow the link <https://ormistonswbacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/COVID-Safeguarding-Flyer.pdf>

My child has additional support in class as they are identified as having special educational needs. They are really struggling with some of the tasks and work being set. Where do I get help?

Your child will already be getting additional support through a weekly one to one session with a member of the SEND team. Sometimes these are more than once a week. But, if you feel this is not helping enough please email sendco@oswba.co.uk

What is happening about Year 9 Options this year?

It will happen virtually. There will be videos and information on the website very shortly. Options choices will take place on 5.2.21. More information to follow.

It is not always easy to contact Reception of my child's Head of Year. Can you help?

Head of Year & Director of Year email address are below:

We have also set up a new email address, which will be monitored by senior staff. C19support@oswba.co.uk

If students have any issues with work and are struggling to contact their teachers, they should email the following addresses;

Year 7: gbarbary@oswba.co.uk

Year 8: vdorsett@oswba.co.uk

Year 9: apatterson@oswba.co.uk

Year 10: aharwood@oswba.co.uk

Year 11: dhughes@oswba.co.uk

Sixth Form: jbayley@oswba.co.uk

If they need ICT support whilst working from home to email your Head of Year;

Year 7: hglenn@oswba.co.uk

Year 8: rjones@oswba.co.uk

Year 9: aquiney@oswba.co.uk

Year 10: spowell@oswba.co.uk

Year 11: dboxall@oswba.co.uk

Sixth Form: hwalker@oswba.co.uk

Can we have more data for our devices?

So far, we have had 80 requests for additional data, which we have passed on to the mobile phone companies and DFE. If you require more data, please complete the online form;

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HqIrl3mgtNEWb5ZwLB9h4DbPxMGIZ5tJGgO66X9A96VZURFQyNjhLREI4RkJaT1VSRTVYR1VPWESzTS4u>

Can you streamline the calls, sometimes we have 3 different calls for each sibling?

Yes, hopefully you will notice a difference in the next few days – Where there are multiple siblings in one household, only one call will be made from the assigned member of staff.

However, if you child has additional needs in terms of SEND or vulnerabilities, you are likely to continue to receive more calls, this is to offer specialist support and advice.

Can the students access more books and reading materials from the library?

Yes, we are starting an online library <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/> details will be sent out this week.

Further useful information

Video Guides

Uploading to Classcharts from a laptop or PC – <https://youtu.be/JTFdLVZX-Ms>

Uploading photos to Classcharts via a mobile device – <https://youtu.be/bTe46UJizKo>

Attaching to an email with Outlook – <https://youtu.be/GxDyB5mf55c>

Logging into Microsoft Teams – <https://youtu.be/hBXdxCPsA5M>

How to download Microsoft Office software for free – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FL7A_cWdJH4

We know things are difficult, if you need any help please just let us know.

Thank you for your support!