



DEAN TRUST Ardwick

# NEWSLETTER

Spring HT1

11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

A belated Happy New Year to everyone!

Again, we find ourselves in a similar situation to the previous lockdown last year, where school life is disrupted. However, please be assured that we are providing pupils of all year groups with high quality and engaging remote learning.

A large portion of this newsletter is devoted to remote learning. Please visit the [remote learning](#) section of our website to familiarise yourselves with the information there. We have devised a [Remote Learning Pupil Code of Conduct](#) (please see below) for when pupils have 'live' online lessons with their teachers. We want to replicate the standards we expect in the classroom as much as possible whilst pupils participate in these lessons.

We are aware of the struggle some parents and carers may have in supporting their child / children with their remote learning, especially if there are not enough devices for each child. If your child, who attends school at Dean Trust Ardwick, does not have a device it is very important you let us know. Please visit the website to request one at: [www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/remote-learning/request-a-device-for-your-child](http://www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/remote-learning/request-a-device-for-your-child)

We have now organised provision at school for Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests and these are up and running from today for all pupils that are in school, and have parental consent. These tests are voluntary for all pupils and staff but are designed to detect asymptomatic cases and prevent having to self-isolate as a named contact for a positive case.

Please note that the government guidance has now been updated for sending children of critical workers into school. To clarify, parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.

During this period, it is important we keep some continuity. Therefore, pupils will have some form time activities and online assemblies. We shall also start the form, year and school council forums planned for this half term.

If you wish to contact your child's Head of Year for any other reason than remote learning, please email them by visiting the school's website at: [www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/contact-us](http://www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/contact-us)



Ms S. Finlay  
Headteacher

**Safeguarding Tip:** We now use the SHARP system, which stands for 'School, Help, Advice, Reporting, Page'. This offers help and support to pupils in and out of school. Your child can download this as an app or access the website. You can visit the page here: [deantrustardwick.thesharpsystem.com](http://deantrustardwick.thesharpsystem.com)



**Dean Trust Ardwick** @DT\_Ardwick · January

Follow our Twitter account for regular school updates, photographs, newsletters and more! Click here to be linked, or visit: [twitter.com/DT\\_Ardwick](https://twitter.com/DT_Ardwick).

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## Dean Trust Ardwick | Remote Learning Pupil Code of Conduct

Whilst learning at school or at home, our expectations of your behaviour, conduct and attitude to learning remain the same. This Remote Learning Code of Conduct is based on our three values which apply equally to both offline and online communities and relates to our School Code of Conduct:

### Respectful

You are **Respectful** by:

- Keeping your microphone turned off until asked to contribute by the teacher
- Using the hand up function if you want to participate in the lesson
- Not using the chat function to talk to your friends and peers about anything other than the learning taking place.
- Keeping the conversations kind and showing gratitude.
- Protecting the privacy of others by not recording or screenshotting images of any individuals or the lesson content (Breach of this will be taken seriously.)
- Wearing suitable clothing for the school day.

### Ready

You are **Ready** by:

- Getting your workspace ready to be de-cluttered with no personal items on display.
- Logging into Google Classroom by 9:00am.
- Not eating whilst learning is taking place. Clear bottle of water only.
- Not leaving your desk or moving around to cause distractions.
- Not using your mobile phone or other devices during your lesson.
- Taking sensible breaks away from the computer between each lesson to re-focus your mind.

### Responsible

You are **Responsible** by:

- Using your own school log in and ensuring you have not issued your password to other pupils.
- Not sharing the link with other pupils in different classes.
- Completing your work to the best of your ability and not classing another pupil's work as your own.
- Choosing a safe and suitable place to work to aid your concentration and progress.
- Using your headphones for learning to minimise background noise.
- Completing and submitting your own work to the best of your ability.
- Reporting any concerns, you may have on the SHARP system.

As with your learning in school, we trust that you will follow these expectations. However, if you do not adhere to the Remote Learning Code of Conduct, it is very likely your teachers will remove you from the live learning sessions and contact your family to discuss the matter.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## How to: Request a device for remote learning

Dean Trust Ardwick are working hard to ensure that all of our pupils have a suitable device and internet access to complete their remote learning on Google Classroom. Please read the information below to see whether you qualify to request a device and how to do so.

### A suitable device is:

- A laptop computer or similar device like a ChromeBook
- A desktop computer

### What is not a suitable device:

- A Smartphone like an iPhone or Samsung Galaxy
- The majority of work can be completed on an iPad or similar tablet, although producing long pieces of written work on this kind of device can be extremely difficult. We therefore recommend that Year 10 or Year 11 pupils request a device if they only have access to a tablet. This is to ensure that they can complete all vocational coursework.

### Acceptable reasons for requesting a device:

- a. Your child only has access to a device which is not suitable (a Smartphone)
- b. Your child is having to share a suitable device with a sibling or other member of the household
- c. Your child is in Year 10 or Year 11 and only has access to a tablet or Smartphone
- d. Your child does not have access to an effective internet a connection
- e. Your child did have access to a suitable device but it is now broken

### How to request a device:

If any of the following apply to you, then you must send an email to the Head of the Year group of the child you are requesting the device for.

In the email, you should include:

- The child's full name
- The reason for requesting a device

Once this email has been sent, it will trigger our system for ordering and preparing device should your child qualify.

We ask that you are patient in receiving further communication as we are experiencing some delays in the delivery of devices to school.

### Contact details:

Mrs Rashford	Year 7	HeadOfYear7@deantrustardwick.co.uk
Mr Diaz	Year 8	HeadOfYear8@deantrustardwick.co.uk
Mr Chewtyn	Year 9	HeadOfYear9@deantrustardwick.co.uk
Mr Hull	Year 10	HeadOfYear10@deantrustardwick.co.uk
Mr Smith	Year 11	HeadOfYear11@deantrustardwick.co.uk

You can find more information on remote learning at the website page below:

[www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/remote-learning](http://www.deantrustardwick.co.uk/remote-learning)

Remote Learning  
Home / Remote Learning

Request a device for your child

Year 7 Remote Learning

Year 8 Remote Learning



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### Year 11 GCSEs and Vocational Qualifications Update

This week has seen a number of announcements from the Department for Education regarding the cancellation of some exams and I wanted to take this opportunity to provide everyone with an update regarding this. My aim is to try and alleviate any concerns, frustrations and anxieties over this difficult and rapidly changing situation.

#### BTEC and Vocational exams in January (also applicable to some Year 10 pupils)

For those of you with children entered for the Creative iMedia exam due to go ahead on 11th January, I want to thank you for your patience and continued support as we awaited the Government and exam board's decision regarding this examination.

Our pupils are being withdrawn from this exam, for reasons explained in an email to you. This means that the pupils will be entered in the summer and we have been assured that they will not be disadvantaged by the current situation, or additionally, if it were not possible to sit the exam in June 2021.

#### BTEC and Vocational qualifications

As of yet, the Government have not provided clear guidance as to whether BTEC and vocational exams will go ahead in the summer. However, these qualifications are mostly assessed through the submission of coursework units and these must still be submitted, marked and moderated in the same way as during normal circumstances.

#### Cancellation of GCSE Exams Summer 2021

The Government have made a clear announcement that GCSE exams will be cancelled in Summer 2021. As GCSE subjects are mostly assessed only through examinations, they have made the announcement that final grades will be based on 'teacher assessment'.

What we are awaiting is clear guidance on the process teachers will need to use to determine these grades and the nature of any evidence of pupil work/previous attainment we will need to provide to exam boards.

With this in mind, I would like to share some key thoughts and guidance for pupils moving forward:

- The cancellation of examinations is a positive announcement and will ensure, even with the disruption Year 11 have faced since March 2020 to their face to face education, that they still have every opportunity to achieve their highest potential.
- The cancellation of examinations means that pupils are no longer subject to any unknown elements, out of their control, which may have affected their achievement. Not being assessed by examination removes the risks of under-achievement such as: illness on the day of the exam; mistakes made because of exam pressures; misread or misunderstood exam questions etc.
- Last year when teachers were asked to submit Centre Assessed Grades for pupils to determine their final grades, the process included teachers making a judgement about the pupils' likely attainment in the exam itself (including all elements of the specifications and topics). So far, you have received current grades and mock exam results for your child which take into account their current attainment on only certain parts of the specifications and topics. This means that your child has every chance, and the same chance to increase their grade (through hard work and commitment) but also, that a decrease in work ethic as the rest of the GCSE courses are being taught, may result in a decrease in attainment.
- Therefore, pupils' work ethic and attitude to learning (producing classwork, homework and remote learning work) is now more important than ever. It is vital that all pupils continue to progress and learn new content covered in lessons (whether these are face to face or remote).
- Continuing to learn and address any gaps in knowledge is vital for pupils, not just to achieve their GCSE qualifications, but to ensure they are thoroughly prepared for their next steps whether into education, employment or training. For example, without a firm base of GCSE (Level 2) knowledge, a pupil may struggle to access learning when beginning A-Level (Level 3) courses. We must ensure, through our joint support and provision for our pupils, that they are not in this position come September.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we look forward to updating you on your child's progress, albeit remotely, during Year 11 parents evenings: Year 11 T Band: Wednesday 20th January; Year 11 D Band: Thursday 21st January.

Stay up to date with the latest information by visiting our website. Here you will find up to date COVID-19 information and more. [Click here to visit the page.](#)



Coronavirus Updates/School Reopening  
Information for Parents & Carers

[Please click here for more information](#)



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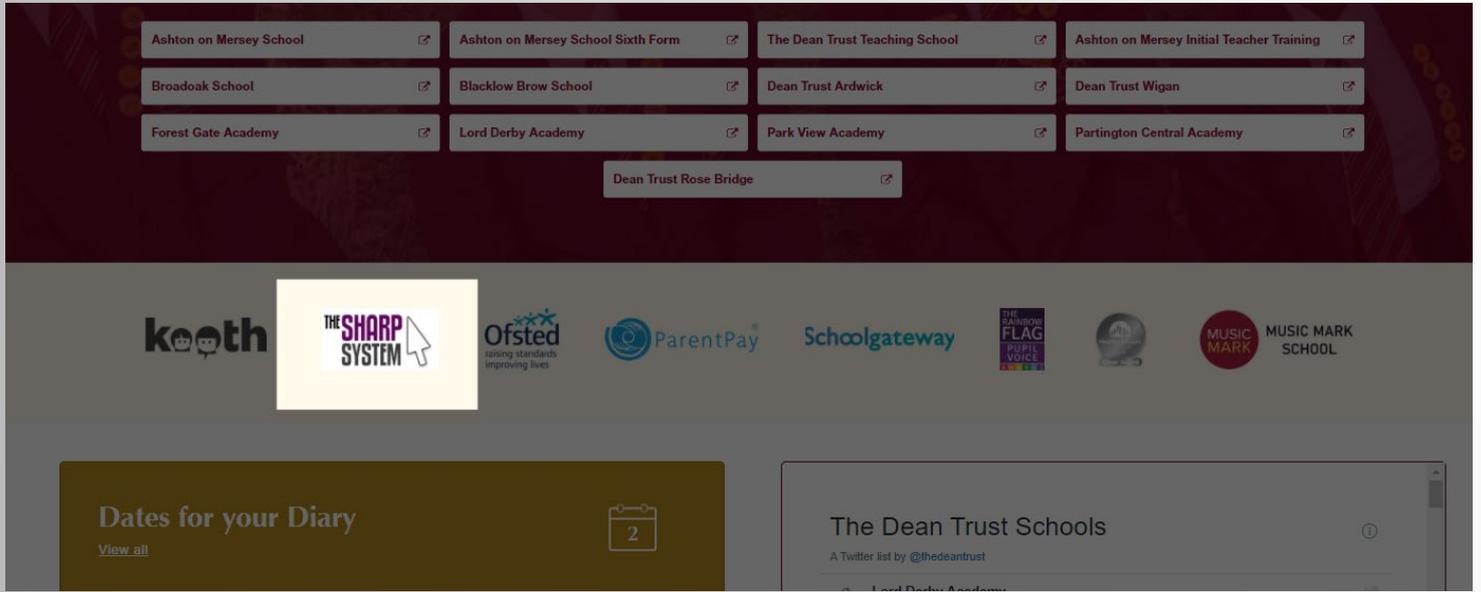
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# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## Online Learning

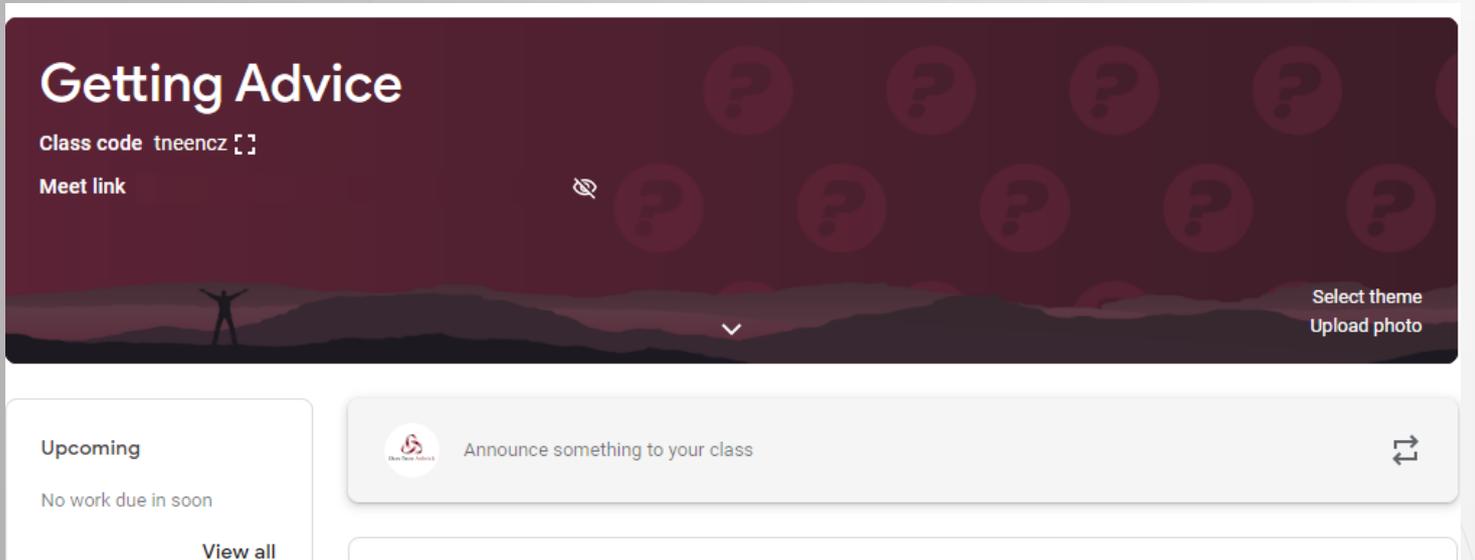
As your child is now accessing learning online, there are certain things you can do as a parent to support their safety.

Attached is some guidance from National Online Safety which is recommended for you to read and discuss with your child. Also, on the school website you will find links to various organisations that support with online risks. As young people are spending more time online, they are more open to the risks associated with online activity. These risks can come in the form of: sexual abuse, cyberbullying, radicalisation, youth produced sexual imagery (sexting), age-inappropriate content and other harmful content. If you are concerned about any risks to your child and you wish to seek some support from the welfare team at school, this can be done by emailing [safeguarding@deantrustardwick.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@deantrustardwick.co.uk) or by clicking on the link below which will taking you to the school SHARP System which will allow you to raise a concern to school.



## Wellbeing Support

Lockdown can be an incredibly challenging time for young people due to their feelings of isolation away from friends, family, and school. In order to support the mental health and wellbeing of pupils there will be various activities the school will be taking part in over the next few weeks to keep up the connection to the school community. If we have identified your child as needing some additional mental health and wellbeing support, they will be contacted via school to attend any ongoing sessions they might have with an external service provider. Also, our school welfare team will be contacting many of the pupils to check in on their wellbeing weekly via the telephone. There is still access to school nurse services and the poster included explains on how to access that. We do have a fantastic school resource base on Google Classroom code: **tnencz** also provides a lot of information, guidance and support for all things wellbeing. Please encourage your child to join the classroom. If you have any concerns, please contact school via the SHARP system on the school website.



## SCHOOL MESSAGES

### Manchester United Foundation - Hampers for vulnerable families

Over the course of two days a total of 2520 frozen meals and 126 dry food hampers were donated by Manchester United Foundation to Dean Trust Ardwick, to be distributed to our most vulnerable families. We are incredibly grateful for their generosity.



Foundation



### English Faculty and Library Team

At Dean Trust Ardwick we want reading to be something that our pupils enjoy and we aim to develop them into life-long readers for pleasure. Over this period of Remote Learning we want to continue to support your child with reading. All pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 will take part in an online reading lesson each week, created by our Librarian, and posted on their English Google Classroom page. In addition, we have identified some pupils who would benefit from extra reading instruction remotely. This could take the form of remote lessons through our online reading platform myON, or it may be 1-2-1 live reading lessons. Please ask pupils to check their gmail accounts for any emails with further instructions, and look out for any text messages from the school with additional Google Classroom codes for your child.

Finally, with libraries closed, I wanted to draw your attention to the fact that all pupils have a login for myON which is a website with hundreds of free books to read. This is brilliant resource that the school has access to, so please encourage your child to take full advantage of it! It can even read the books to you to help struggling readers!

<https://www.myon.co.uk/login/index.html>

RENAISSANCE  
myON

Login

School Name



Above: Signs that our incredibly creative librarian, Miss Santos, created.

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## Energy Saving Week 2021

The 18<sup>th</sup> January will mark the start of Energy Saving Week, a campaign focused on helping the public cut their energy bills and receive the financial support entitled to them. To inspire pupils into thinking greener, Miss Bostock is running a competition for Year 7, 8 and 9 to create a new energy saving invention. The competition is a great opportunity for pupils to get creative with an incredibly important global problem. Pupils are invited to present their ideas in any way they like; posters, presentations, models, videos, just be creative! The best three entries will receive prizes! Inventions will need to be submitted to Miss Bostock by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January. There is some inspiration below!

For more information on the event and tips on saving on your energy bills, visit:



**Big Energy Saving Winter**  
*Check. Switch. Save.*



**Citizens Advice**  
Save money on your gas and electricity.



**Energy Saving Trust**  
Working to address the climate emergency.

### Taking advantage of the sun

Solar panels power your home by capturing the sun's energy and turning the energy into electricity. In a push to be environmentally friendly, more and more homeowners are fitting solar panels.

It doesn't have to be sunny to generate energy – solar panels will still work on cloudy days and in the winter; just not as effectively as a bright summer's day.



### Mini wind turbines that will blow you away

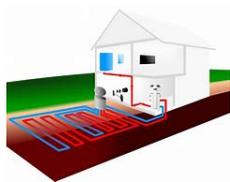
We've all heard of wind turbines – and the amazing work happening to capture more wind energy – but have you heard of mini wind turbines for your home?

You can get small turbines mounted on your roof or next to your home. You'll need to get planning permission and have your home evaluated to see if you can generate enough wind power.



### Generating from the ground up

Ground source heat pumps use pipes deep in the earth (often your garden) to get heat from the ground. This can then be used to heat anything in your home, from radiators to hot water you could extract your heat from the earth.



### Heating up your water with sunshine

Your next bath could be heated from the sun. (If you have a solar water unit!).

Solar thermal units are mounted on your roof, on poles, or on the ground. A water tank stores the water and then it's pumped through the panels. This is a method that will grow in popularity – you just need your own solar panels and enough space to store a large unit.



### Harnessing the power of water

Most people won't have a river or stream to power their home; however, there will be the lucky few, and if this is you – you could divert some water to flow through a turbine and power your home!

The flow and distance will determine how much power you can actually generate. But, unlike solar and wind; hydropower is stable and reliable.

The pros? It's stable can generate energy year round no matter the weather. The cons? Most people will not have a water source – and it can be trickier to implement than say solar panels.

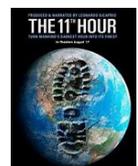


### Films to inspire you...



**I Am Greta**  
Intimate documentary about a young girl who has become the voice of a generation.

© Jan 2021 | Programmes | BBC Three



# Do you need help with...



**Food.**

**Medicines.**

**Company.**

**Fuel bills.**

**Online services.**

Call Manchester City Council on 0800 234 6123

Monday to Friday 9am–5pm

Text 078600 22876 (response by next working day)

Email [COVIDSupport@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:COVIDSupport@manchester.gov.uk)

# CORONAVIRUS CASES ARE INCREASING ACROSS MANCHESTER

We can help to stop this by:



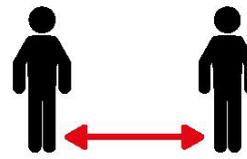
Washing hands often



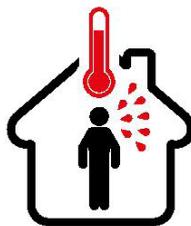
Wearing face coverings



Wiping down surfaces  
(handles, doors etc)



Keeping distance  
from other people



Staying at home if you think you have the virus (*signs are high temperature, or a new and continuous cough, or loss of smell and taste*) and booking a test

You can get a test and find out how long to stay home by ringing **119** or logging on to [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)