



Thomas Telford School Road to Recovery

The following statement outlines Thomas Telford School's plan for dealing with the impact of the pandemic. The pandemic and subsequent lockdowns will have impacted students greatly; as a School we have actively looked to support students throughout this process. We are striving to reach a point, whereby the progress of students has not been impeded, and whereby we can return to giving students lifelong experiences from School, which are not just from inside the classroom. It should also be noted that in many cases students have coped very well with the lockdowns, which has been aided by the support given throughout the period.

Lockdown

During the lockdowns, all students received high quality remote learning, with the use of Microsoft Teams and Zoom by subject departments, to deliver live lessons when possible and advantageous. High quality video and documentary resources were also used in a blended way to give students various ways of accessing the curriculum. Departments reviewed schemes of work in order to provide work that could best be delivered through remote practices. Students who were identified by teachers as struggling with completion of work were contacted by the pastoral team on a weekly basis, although this was a very small minority. Personal Tutors also contacted home to check on students' well-being during the lockdown. As a school we had over 120 students who attended during the lockdown, as they were identified as children of key workers or as vulnerable students. At the same time, we also supplied 96 students with laptops, so that a lack of resources was not a barrier to their progress, as they could access the remote learning available.

Recovery

We quickly published our 'Roadmap to Recovery' when we returned in March. This gave students and parents a clear route out of lockdown, and allowed students to see the enrichment activities that they had to look forward to. On the academic side, Session 3 was used for 6.2 and Year 11 students identified by subjects as needing further support from 3:40 to 5:15pm on an evening, and from students volunteering to attend. During this Session 3 programme 117 Year 11 students and 114 6.2 students attended. The Session 3 provision was extended in time, with students further down the School taking full advantage of the programme of Sports and Performing Arts activities put on during Session 3. In late April, we also introduced Saturday School for Year 11 and 6.2 students for five consecutive Saturdays, from 9:00am to 12:00pm. 98 students attended these sessions, gaining extra support from teachers in small group settings. After the June half term break, we moved the provision of Saturday School and Session 3 to Year 10 and 6.1 students. In the summer holidays, we look forward to welcoming 190 of our new Year 7 students for a week of learning to help them hit the ground running in September.

Initially, individual subjects use group work to help re-establish social relationship and working practices. Alongside this, subjects are planning to assess students to see where they are in their learning and what support and intervention is required for them to fulfil their potential. In particular the use of Session 3 will be maximised to enable students identified as having been disadvantaged through this period to help them recover the lost ground.