



LEARNING @ HOME

Support Guide for Parents and Carers

In this issue:

- Top tips to support learning at home
- What online learning looks like in Girvan Academy
- What support is available
- Accessing online platforms
- Individual subject provision

WELCOME

We find ourselves again in a period of learning from home. Our staff have been preparing online learning to support our young people during another period of uncertainty.

This guide outlines the digital provision at Girvan Academy and how young people will be supported with their learning at home. Should you need further support please contact us on 01465 716816.

Elaine Harrigan
Head Teacher

TOP TIPS TO SUPPORT LEARNING IN THE HOME:

- Try to create a space where young people can work productively at home. With siblings or adults working from home, work space and ICT provision may have to be shared. Try setting aside dedicated time for each individual.
- Become familiar with our online platforms. Show My Homework (SMHW) and Microsoft Teams allow you to see learning provision from all teachers. Help guides are included attached for both platforms. Talk to your child about what has been issued and ensure they understand what they need to do.
- Try to encourage daily engagement. Teachers will be available to support young people with their learning.
- Be flexible! The most important thing is for our young people to feel safe and happy.



Online Learning Provision

During our time in school, we have conducted surveys and consultations with young people and staff to ensure we know what works well and how to improve our digital practice to ensure high quality learning and teaching for all young people. All staff have completed additional online training to ensure we are able to maximise the use of Teams and SMHW to support young people. We have a number of Microsoft Innovative Educators within our staff team who are sharing expertise with their colleagues which means our staff feel very confident teaching in a virtual classroom.

Where can my child access learning?

During the last period of online learning, we used two platforms. As part of our feedback, young people suggested that moving between platforms was confusing. One of the main benefits of SMHW is the ability to communicate directly with parents. However, staff have indicated that Microsoft Teams offers additional features which are helpful to young people and so learning for most classes has moved to virtual classrooms on Teams. In preparation for online learning, class teachers informed young people in December how to access their learning. All young people should be able to access Teams without difficulties. In Computing, S1 and S2 lessons focused on familiarising young people with MS Teams. SMHW will still be used to send notifications to parents and whole school messages but young people should be accessing their Teams pages every day to engage with teaching staff.

What does online learning and teaching consist of?

In a secondary school, the nature of learning can vary from subject to subject. Some subjects can move learning easily to digital platforms (in fact some subjects, such as Music and Computing, had already moved to online platforms before January) but, for some practical subjects, such as Technical and Physical Education, this is more challenging. All classes have an online classroom on Teams. Teaching staff have populated their Teams with resources for young people to access. Teams has a 'social media style' posts page which allows staff to update all young people quickly and for young people to ask questions or add comments. Each subject will provide learning in a way that best suits their delivery however you can expect to see a variety of these examples:

- Tasks set on Teams for young people to complete and submit to demonstrate new learning or reinforce prior learning. These may include online quizzes, Microsoft forms, videos to watch, essay writing, reading tasks or other consolidation exercises.
- Flipped learning. This means young people would do their own investigative study into topics before the teacher introduces new learning. This might include note-making exercises, research, video links or the reading of webpages.
- Directed teaching. This could include teachers using Powerpoint or another learning tool with recorded voiceovers to explain learning or tasks to young people. It could also include live streaming of some lessons.
- Support from class teachers. Staff will respond to questions or difficulties as quickly as they can. Young people could seek support by writing questions on Teams, emailing class teachers or during live stream video calls.

Girvan Academy Support Resources

Staff are setting work for young people directly through Microsoft Teams but there are other additional resources we have available to offer guidance to parents and carers with learning at home.

Literacy Guide for Parents

This guide gives information on how to develop your child's reading, writing, talking and listening. There are helpful hints and tips to develop these skills as a family.

Numeracy Guide for Parents

This guide shows how particular numeracy skills are now taught within Girvan Academy. Sometimes, as parents/carers, we recall ways of learning numeracy skills that our young people don't understand as the way of teaching has changed. This guide aims to demonstrate how our staff teach skills so, when supporting at home, parents can be consistent with the practice taught in school.

Health and Wellbeing Guide For Parents

This guide offers a range of activities for young people to complete on their own or for families to complete and challenge each other. The guide identifies the skillsets being developed and offers simple games to play at home.

WWW Initiative

This leaflet explains all of the people who are available to support your child during this period and how to get in contact with them.

ICT Issues

This folder includes support video guides for using Teams / GLOW.

https://glowscotland-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/sa18girvan1_glow_sch_uk/Ek8uEwg3re5lubqawKSq7RIBH6mnOnbY4IL_XgRNlqggqQ?e=eRgN4f

Digital Support Guide for Parents and Carers

Did you know **gaming consoles** can be used to access digital learning? The added benefit is young people are likely to be thoroughly familiar with this device. All you need is a plug in keyboard and a mouse. These can be picked up inexpensively online. Alternatively, contact Guidance staff to see if short-term equipment loans can be organised.

FOR XBOX USERS:

1. Turn on Xbox One and launch Edge. Edge can be downloaded in your store.
2. Enter the URL <https://glow.rmunify.com>
3. Once loaded, enter username (this will be the part before @glow.sch.uk in their email address).
4. Enter the password. You could save the username and password to the device for easier access next time.
5. Follow this link for a useful video tutorial:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWTwAfLKbkU>

FOR PLAYSTATION USERS:

1. Turn on PS4 and launch Internet Browser. Select Library, then Applications as shown.
2. Enter the URL <https://glow.rmunify.com>
3. Once loaded, enter username (this will be the part before @glow.sch.uk in their email address).
4. Enter the password. You could save the username and password to the device for easier access next time.
5. Follow this link for a useful video tutorial:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHTHaXhccDE>

Remember, we want to support you as much as we can during this period so please get in contact with the Care and Wellbeing Team should you have any concerns.

Alex.Scott6@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

DHT (Pupil Support Co-ordinator)

Kirsty.Dupuy@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

PT Guidance – Bargany House

Marion.Hutchison@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

PT Guidance – Doune House

Dominic.Booth@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

PT Guidance – Trochrague House

Alan.Muir@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

PT Support & Wellbeing

Lisa.Woods@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Education Support Officer

Gemma.McVarrie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Place2Be Counsellor

Subject Specific Information

Subject	Learning Information	Support Available
English	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Additionally, notifications will be sent on SMHW to alert parents/carers to learning for the week. Tasks will be set weekly to allow learners to manage time as appropriate however submissions will only be required once per week.	Direct email questions will be responded to within 24 hours. All class teachers will host contact periods on Teams to allow young people to discuss learning with staff or to receive an immediate response. Availability of individual staff members will be posted on Teams pages.
Expressive Arts	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. S1-3 classes will also be updated on SMHW. Submission deadlines will be on MS Teams and SMHW and feedback on submissions will be addressed the following week through lessons.	Class GLOW meets and individual GLOW meets for instrument instruction during school timetabled periods. Information will be updated through Teams. Contact staff on Teams or via email for support.
Home Economics	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Additionally, notifications will be sent through SMHW to alert parents / carers to learning set.	Contact directly through email. Live support times will also be shared on Teams.
Humanities	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Additionally, notifications will also be sent from Geography and History to SMHW to alert parents/carers to learning for the week. Learning will be uploaded weekly to allow young people to complete at a time that suits them.	Email addresses have been issued to young people. There will also be drop in Team meetings to allow young people to ask questions. Dates/times will be available on Teams pages.
Mathematics	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Notifications of 'live events' will be on MS Teams and will be scheduled during timetabled class time.	Email class teachers for support through GLOW or contact directly on MS Teams page.
Modern Languages	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Senior phase classwork will be uploaded on Mondays and BGE classwork will be uploaded on Wednesdays. Senior phase learners should also monitor their GLOW email addresses for individual tasks / support.	Support resources are available in the Files tab on Teams. Both teachers will be available on all Teams pages to respond to any queries.

Physical Education	Content will be delivered through MS Teams & SMHW. S1-4 core PE should use the Pupils and Parents At Home booklet (available on Teams and SMHW) and take part in the Girvan Gets Going interactive house challenge. Tweet challenges to @GirvanAcadPE or email to your class teacher.	Points of contact have been identified for the following qualifications: Higher PE should contact scott.ireland2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk National 5 PE / Sport & Rec should contact marie.hettrick@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or david.strachan@south-ayrshire.gov.uk Staff will include live learning slots for all classes to allow young people to ask questions.
Science	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Additionally, notifications will be sent on SMHW to alert parents/carers to new learning activities. Learning updates will be posted regularly throughout the week.	Staff will be available on Teams and via email. All staff will be available for instant responses on Teams and email at 11 am each week day.
Technical	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Learning will be uploaded on a Monday for BGE classes. Senior classes will have two updates: Monday and Thursday.	Contact staff for support via email or Teams. Scheduled online tutorial dates will be posted on Teams.
Technologies	All classes have been set up on MS Teams and learning will take place on this platform. Alerts will also be sent through SMHW.	Each class will have a live learning slot during one of their allocated timetabled periods. Staff will alert young people through Teams. Email class teachers for support through GLOW or contact directly on MS Teams page.

*We aim to provide a 24 hour response time for email queries. This will apply Monday to Thursday. Queries received on Friday will receive replies on Monday at the latest.