



23 February 2021

Rachel Hutchinson  
Principal

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Recommendations for Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities during the Remote Learning Period**

At Ivybridge Community College we believe in a fully inclusive education whether delivered in College or remotely.

We fully recognise that some students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may not be able to access remote education without adult support and so we endeavour to work with families to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum. As such our team ensure that every student with SEND is contacted at least fortnightly by telephone to support their pastoral and academic needs.

Our contingency plans to meet individual needs for all students with SEND include:

- All teaching staff continuing to follow and support My Plans and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) as closely as possible and make reasonable adjustments to their teaching in live lessons.
- All students with EHCPs having access to in-College provision where they may access teaching assistant support in lessons and/or coaching and mentoring to support them.
- All students with EHCPs can continue to have access to their specific provisions as highlighted within their EHCP where capacity allows and is not affected by COVID-19 restrictions. Interventions for other students with SEND will also continue where possible.
- Support for students with SEND to help coach them in fully accessing Remote Learning when at home – some students may attend College on an adhoc basis to support their learning in certain subjects.
- If needed, all students can be provided with printed resources, such as textbooks and workbooks or coloured exercise books where necessary.
- Teaching and Learning strategies are shared with staff to help support them in adapting their live online lessons to support students with SEND.
- We continue to encourage all learners with SEND to work to the best of their ability and recognise this through our epraise reward system, as well as special recognition postcards home.

Please find below an overview of recommendations and suggested links to help support your students at home during the Remote Learning period.

Student Need	Recommendation
Universal Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where possible work at a desk or a table and not on your bed or the sofa.</li> <li>• Have a clutter-free workspace away from distractions.</li> <li>• Use the 10 minutes at the end of lessons to have a sensory break and a break away from the screen.</li> <li>• Read for enjoyment.</li> </ul>
Diabetes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students should get up and stretch in-between lessons. Remember there are 10 minutes prior to lessons officially starting and 10 minutes at the end of lessons, therefore you could use 10 - 15 minutes to have some movement time.</li> <li>• Check blood sugar levels regularly.</li> <li>• Eat sensibly.</li> </ul>

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Dyslexia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start the day/lesson checking you have everything you need.</li> <li>• Computer set up – changing the screen colour to reduce tiredness, books, stationery, notebook if useful etc.</li> <li>• If teachers are using PowerPoints or worksheets ask them to upload them to Files so you can view them again at a later date.</li> <li>• In-between the lessons take a break – walk away from the screen to rest your eyes and mind.</li> <li>• Use <b>Immersive Reader</b> for Word documents on Microsoft Teams to support your reading.</li> </ul>
ADHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure you have all that is needed prior to the start of the day's lessons. Make sure medication has been taken if prescribed.</li> <li>• Use the breaks between lessons to get up and move.</li> <li>• Try and get outside for some fresh air.</li> </ul>
ASC for Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have your equipment and books prepared at the start of the day.</li> <li>• Keep to a routine.</li> </ul>
Visually Impaired	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapt the computer screen to the colour and size needed. Ensure regular breaks away from the computer.</li> <li>• Access PowerPoints and handouts via the Files and adjust as needed.</li> </ul>
Hearing Impaired	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link your radio aid to the computer if you have one.</li> <li>• Spotlight the teachers when speaking to enable lip-reading.</li> </ul>
Anxiety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get prepared for lessons the night before so everything is ready to go.</li> <li>• In-between lessons take breaks. Ensure you eat and drink regularly. When and if possible do some exercise such as going for a walk and get plenty of sleep.</li> <li>• Carry out mindfulness activities.</li> <li>• Connect with friends.</li> </ul>

#### Useful links:

#### Joe Wicks' 7-Minute Workout:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?sp=mAEB&search\\_query=joe+wicks+7+minute+worskout](https://www.youtube.com/results?sp=mAEB&search_query=joe+wicks+7+minute+worskout)

**5-Minute Mindfulness:** [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=5+minute+mindfulness+](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=5+minute+mindfulness+)

#### How to use Immersive Reader Video -

<https://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=%27How+To+Do%27+videos&pid=1494>

**Sensory Break Ideas** (dependent on sense overloaded): exercise, doodling, tapping, shaking your hands out, hot water bottle, stress ball, quiet place, calming music, awakening music, experiencing the environment, colouring, reading, chewing mints, scented candles (this list is just an overview of ideas).

**Mindfulness Colouring:** <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/parents/parents-categories-parents/parents-activities-colouring-pages-mindfulness-colouring>

Should students or parents/carers have any concerns or queries with their Remote Learning they are asked to contact the Assistant SENDCos, Abi Newman, Director of SEND, or Amy Pearce, Assistant Principal with oversight of SEND, via [send@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:send@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

Abigail Newman  
**Director of SEND**