



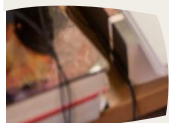
PG 1

What a great start!



PG 2

Safe and Healthy



PG 3

Useful links

# Remote Learning

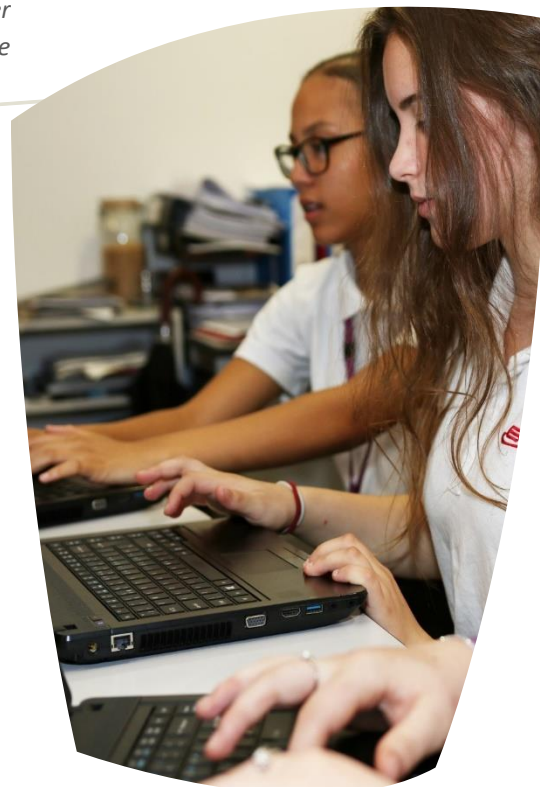
*We are now well into the second week of school closures, and it seems like the right time to take stock of where we are and what our remote -learning programme looks like, answer some frequently asked questions, and provide some useful links to some great online resources for your whole household.*

## What a great start!

Here at BOA we have been working hard to build a remote learning experience that works for everyone, that allows room for innovation and creativity whilst ensuring everybody can access quality materials and guidance.

For those students in their first year of study (year 10 and year 12) we are running a comprehensive remote learning programme that attempts to mirror what would have been taking place in our classrooms this term. At the centre of this approach are the activities teachers are setting each week on a Monday morning, shared via our remote learning google drive ([www.boa-online.co.uk/remote-learning](http://www.boa-online.co.uk/remote-learning)). However, we are now seeing more and more innovation and creativity from staff and students alike.

For example the acting and MT departments are currently planning and preparing live performances using video chat platforms, the dance and art teams have been running live streamed video workshops, the English department are podcasting book reviews, and digital arts have been making and sharing a series of video lessons and tutorials. The maths and science teams have been setting enhanced learning tasks via the interactive learning apps Mathswatch and Ezy Science and it has been pleasing to see how many learners have been logging in. Many of our teachers are now using the Google Classroom app as their main tool for setting work, talking to students, and sharing resources. In fact last week we saw an average of 450 first year students visiting our remote learning resources every day - this is almost the whole cohort.



## A PERSONALISED EXPERIENCE

For those learners in their second year of study we have personalised our approach. These students are working directly with their teachers to maximise their banked attainment on their BTEC courses. This is because we expect the final BTEC grades to be based almost entirely on the assessed work completed to date. Students who can improve their BTEC grade profile have been provided with individual action plans (IAPs) by their pathway teachers. Unfortunately, we do not know yet how the GCSE and A'level course grades will be awarded, but we do know that there is nothing students can be doing to enhance these outcomes. Therefore we are not setting specific work each week for these courses. That said, many learners have expressed that they are still keen to further their subject knowledge; either to cement their understanding of a topic or to progress their learning in preparation for University or 6<sup>th</sup> Form. In these cases, our teachers and directors have been setting tasks and activities on an ad-hock basis in response to student requests. Later on, in this news letter you will find links to general activities which learners can be doing to prepare themselves for their next steps.



# Safe and healthy

Never has it been more important to ensure we are looking after our bodies. With this in mind; when working at a screen for long periods of time we should pay close attention to our posture and take breaks often.



**Eyes can become strained** after staring at a computer screen for a long time, particularly if working in bad light, in glare or with a flickering screen.

Screen filters can remove a high percentage of the harmful rays emitted from a computer screen.

Use screens that do not flicker.

Take regular breaks - do not work for more than one hour without a break.

Lighting must be suitable and blinds fitted to windows to reduce glare.

**Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI)** is damage to the fingers, wrists and other parts of the body due to repeated movements over a long period of time.

To prevent RSI, make sure your posture is correct, use wrist rests and have a five-minute break from typing every hour.



For advice on how to stay safe online visit [boa-academy.co.uk/esafety](http://boa-academy.co.uk/esafety)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



**Where can I see the weekly resources?** [www.boa-online.co.uk/remote-learning](http://www.boa-online.co.uk/remote-learning)

**What if nothing shows on the resources page?** Use Google Chrome web browser on your computer or install the Google Drive app on your phone

**Where do I get help with logging in, accessing resources or technical issues?** [ITHelp@BOA-Academy.co.uk](mailto:ITHelp@BOA-Academy.co.uk)

**Who do I contact for task advice?**  
The subject teacher

**What is the VLE?** This is our normal online landing page for students during term time. [www.boa-online.co.uk](http://www.boa-online.co.uk)

**What is Google Classroom?** This is a free app that allows teachers and students to communicate, share resources and hand in work.

**What is a Google Meet?** This our preferred video chat/streaming service.

**What if we don't have a computer at home?** We wrote to parents some weeks ago on this and as a result we have provided laptops to a number of students through our entitlement programme. However resources are now very limited. Contact [ITHelp@BOA-academy.co.uk](mailto:ITHelp@BOA-academy.co.uk) for further information.

# Free online resources for students, parents and carers

# Online **LINKS**

## The latest list

Here is a list of free online learning resources which have landed in the academy inbox this week. We hope they will be useful to students, parents, carers, and those of you have family members or friends with younger children.

### Ks4 & Post-16

- Senica Learning: [SENICA LEARNING – GCSE & A'LEVEL](#)
- BBC Bitesize [BBC BITESIZE \(GCSE and younger\)](#)
- Gráinne Hallahan. Secondary English resources thread. [ENGLISH RESOURCES](#)
- Have a look at the teacher and parent resources the [Khan Academy](#) have put together:
- Visit some online museums: [MUSEUMS](#)
- Actively Learn has made all of its resources for students and parents free for the rest of the school year: [ACTIVELYLEARN](#)
- Douglas Wise GCSE English remote learning packs: [ENGLISH RESOURCES](#)
- Success at School have created a careers action plan for students and parents. [Click here to download it.](#) You can also [sign up](#) for emails.
- For those wanting to better themselves and try something new, try <https://www.shawacademy.com/> and <https://www.futurelearn.com/>
- For live streaming theatre productions and shows visit [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#).



### Younger children

- Teachwire Year 1 Pack: [Year 1](#)
- Teachwire Year 2 Pack: [Year 2](#)
- Teachwire Year 3/4 Pack: [Year 3/4](#)
- Teachwire Year 5/6 Pack: [Year 5/6](#)
- Joe-Wicks – Live streaming PE at 9am (there are fitness coaching videos for adults too!). [Body Coach TV YouTube channel](#)
- David Walliams free audio stories. A new story every day: [Check here each day for a new story.](#)
- Hand-washing science experiment: [Check out the full experiment, here.](#)
- Free kids books aged 3-11: [Browse the virtual bookshelves here.](#)
- The Institute of Physics has put together a document linking to Ks3 science resource. [CLICK HERE](#)
- Teach It English is offering free access to all its resources until the end of April (Ks2 and 3). [Sign up for free resources here.](#)
- White Rose Maths home-learning resources for year 7 & 8. [Find resources for Year 7 and 8 here.](#)
- Kaligo hand-writing app: [Check it out here.](#)
- Research friendly and safe search engine (use instead of google): [Researchify](#)



We have also registered for free resources with Pearson and EtonX and will share details as soon as we get them.