



# Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

Welcome back to everyone after the half term break. I hope that you all had a good break and that you had some time to relax.

We now come to the half term leading up to Christmas, this half term is particularly busy and important for all our GCSE and A Level students who will be undertaking practice examinations and assessments soon.

This year because of the much discussed uncertainty surrounding final A Level and GCSE examinations these practice examinations/tests become much more important. Results from these may need to be used to formulate a part of any school based assessed grade that might be required in the summer. It is difficult to be completely clear about this at present because the Government has not issued any guidance for students or schools regarding the back-up arrangements for this year's public examinations.

In this context, given the potential importance of these upcoming tests/assessments it is advisable for all our students to take them extremely seriously; making extra efforts to do as well as they possibly can. This will mean that all students need to be devote considerable time and energy this half term undertaking thorough and detailed revision and generally ensuring excellent preparation.

**Sunil Chotai**

**REMINDER** to check your emails and the school website [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) for all COVID-19 updates and information.

Following Government guidelines, staff and pupils at secondary schools (Year 7 and above) must wear face coverings in communal areas outside the classroom.

Please can we ask all parents/carers to ensure that your child has a mask with them before coming to school each day.

We do have a limited amount of masks for emergencies, however, we have had an increasing amount of students requesting masks from us during the school day as they have forgotten them.

Thank you for your support.

**Student Services**

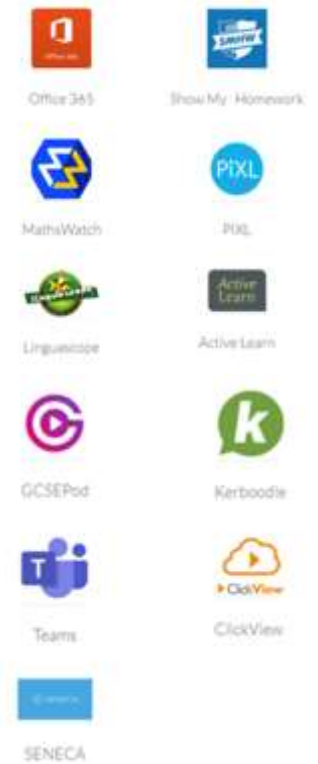
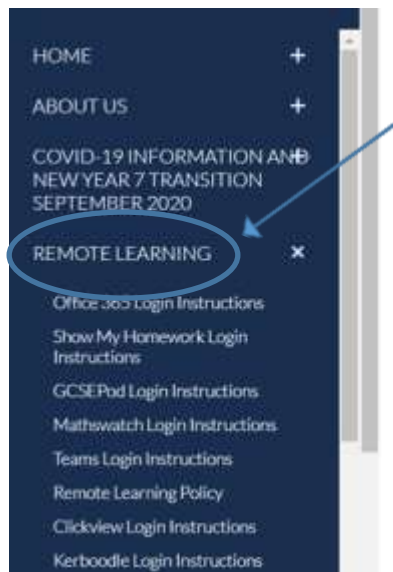
## ONLINE PLATFORMS

We have set up a page on the Charles Darwin School website called Remote Learning where students can access all of the Charles Darwin online learning platforms. This can be accessed by clicking on the new online platform icon on the website menu bar.



Alternatively the online learning platforms can be accessed by scrolling down on the menu bar and clicking on Remote Learning. Clicking on an icon will take you directly to the platform.

Login Instructions for the various platforms can also be found in the Remote Learning area.



If you have any problems accessing the Online Platforms please speak to your Form Tutor for advice.



## Well done Year 7

Year 7 have made an exceptional start to this second half term. There has been a really strong motivation among the year group to work hard and improve across all subjects. We are proud that our Year 7 students have come back this term even more determined and focused than the last. We are excited to continue to oversee their academic achievements across the school year and beyond. The resilience shown by the year group is tremendous with exceptional attendance that has remained high and been steadily improving. Thank you to parents for the support they have given the school, helping their children with homework, encouraging them in school and ensuring their attendance is the best it can be.

Kind regards,

**Year 7 Team.**

### Term Dates 2020-21

#### **Autumn 2020**

Tuesday 1st September - Friday 16th October  
Half term: Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October  
Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 21st December 2020 - Friday 1st January 2021

#### **Spring 2021**

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February  
Half term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February  
Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April

#### **Notes:**

**Good Friday – 2nd April 2021**  
**Easter Monday – 5th April 2021**

**INSET Days** - School closed to students  
Monday 4th January 2021  
Friday 29th January 2021  
Thursday 22nd July 2021  
Friday 23rd July 2021

**Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:  
Parents/carers must phone before 08:30 with a full reason on every day of their child's absence.**