



Adapting to Remote Learning

The tools that helped this school survive lockdown



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St Augustine's CE High School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England comprehensive school in the West London borough of Westminster, Kilburn. We have a diverse cohort of pupils with 70% EAL students, we are also highly inclusive with the school having its own deaf student provision unit to support young people with hearing impairments.

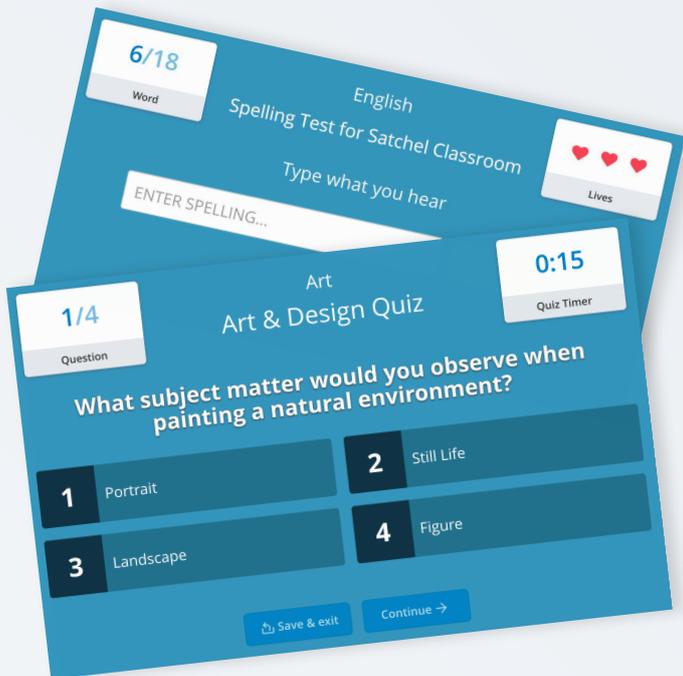
What has been St Augustine's approach to distance learning?

We've been using Satchel One's, Show My Homework (SMHW) app, to issue distance learning tasks for our pupils. We've been using a variation of Classwork, Flexible Tasks, Spelling Tests and Quizzes. Work is either submitted online via Satchel One or, in some cases, students email their individual teachers with the work.

Each member of teaching staff is responsible for setting work to their classes in line with their timetable - for core subjects this includes two tasks each week. Based on feedback from parents and SLT, after the may half term work set for Science students has been revision based, set as an assignment on Satchel One. The progress and tracking of pupils completing work has been monitored by Heads of Year for each individual group and communicated to parents via SLT

How has Satchel One supported you and your school's approach to distance learning?

Pupils are notified about the learning teachers have assigned to them throughout the week which they can then access online or via the Satchel One app. Parents can use Satchel One to see what work their child has been set. It's very easy to use and has allowed us to communicate all lesson work during closures.



In what way, if any, do you think your distance learning experience will change the way you teach in the future?

I feel that distance learning will become the norm in future for staff and pupils in any educational establishment however, I don't think it will become the sole teaching method as it's not without its challenges. Not all pupils have access to the tools needed to effectively learn from home and teachers aren't able to provide students with emotional support as easily whilst working remotely. This being said, I think this experience will pave the way for more distance learning tools being created in the future.



How did you adapt regular use of Satchel One to support your classes during school closures?

Having used Satchel One's to set homework regularly before lockdown I did not need to adapt my use of the tool as I was already familiar with the functionality. Prior to closures I would set homework weekly with attachments, which I still do now, just with lesson work as opposed to home-learning! The main difference now is I set a wider variety of task types - including Differentiated Homework and Spelling Tests.

How are you preparing for the return of all pupils to school in September?

We need more clarification from the government before we can really effectively plan for September. However, our phased reopenings of classrooms for our Year 10 pupils has been a success and we've put in place additional health and safety procedures to ensure the wellbeing of staff and students this includes: setting desks 2m apart from each other, providing writing equipment for each student, taking their temperature as they enter the building and additional cleaning throughout the school day.