Dear Parents / Carers,

At the moment there will be many questions as to how to continue to support young people in their education. Parents and carers have a clear role in this and there are many quick ways you can support them to continue to progress in English.

**How can I help support my child?**

* Talk about what they have been reading in school in the last few weeks/ terms
* Continue to encourage them to read regularly from a range of fiction and non-fiction.
* Check they are regularly working on English revision of all the set texts. Read the texts yourselves where appropriate and talk to them about the characters, ideas and issues the writer is exploring.
* Encourage them to complete the online resources which schools have issued or those which have been made available via the Kent Children’s University and The Education People

**What resources would you recommend?**

As well as what schools may be directly providing there is a lot available online, including BBC Bitesize which is still a valuable resource to cover key points. Cliff and Spark Notes are also good sources of information for Literature GCSE and A Level.

We also have other sources which have emerged in the last few years, for example[Mr Bruff](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM2vdqz-7e4HAuzhpFuRY8w) **and** [Mr Salles](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEB4IwW-eVk9SxHBIGhrY3w)

These are English teachers who have put videos up onto Youtube to support their own students with the AQA exam but they have shared them more widely to help others. Mr Bruff in particular has revision guides for all AQA English exams which you can also purchase through Amazon should you wish to. Some of the topics, such as those which are looking at the literature texts, will be good revision for other exam boards too.



[SENECA Learning](https://www.senecalearning.com/) has materials for all GCSE and A Level subjects and exam boards. These are revision questions and allows students to see progress through their learning. SENECA also has materials for KS3 topics and is very easy to search for what you need.



GCSE pod are offering free resources too, with lots of GCSE exam topics covered and some materials for a range of subjects at KS3 as well as English.

**What should they do while looking at the online revision materials?**

With all materials it is important to do something with the information. Make notes, cover up the revision materials and write down what you remember and then check. Talk to someone about what you have been studying and get them to ask you questions. Create mind maps of topics and finally have a go at planning to answer exam questions and even write longer responses. The more you DO with the material the easier it will be to remember. To help you with this, all exam boards have past papers you can access, along with their mark schemes.

**What about years who don’t have exams?**

If your child is in KS3, then you can also access the materials in these places for the topics they have covered. However, you may want to spend time encouraging them to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. There are many free books available online and there are some suggestions they could look for [here.](https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/)

There are also sites where they can practise their spelling and grammar skills too.

Again, it is useful to discuss what they have learnt with someone else, so talking about it with a parent/ carer or friend will help them to embed what they have learnt in their memory, ready to explore it in more depth later. Shared reading and discussion is a great activity for all ages.