



# Digital Learning Update

Shawlands Academy

December 2020

Throughout November, we held focus groups with pupils, staff and parents and carers. We wanted to find out your thoughts about Digital Learning and the platforms that we are using. Here's what you had to say ...



## What is going well?

Our pupils said:

- (S1 and S2) We really like using Showbie - it is a lot easier than Teams and it is good for Homework as you can look back on what you have done in class;
- It is easier to upload your work on Showbie and it is kept private - which is a good thing;
- Posting photographs of board work is really helpful as you can look over what you did that day at home;

- You can work together using the class discussion function;
- Some pupils find typing easier than writing so the iPad lets them do this;
- Having access to everything you need digitally and having it all in the one place really helps;
- The assignment function on Teams is very helpful for homework and deadlines;
- Some subjects have posted revision notes / exam style questions / ppts on their Teams and these are really helpful for revision and studying.

Our staff said:

- Showbie is simpler than Teams so it seems easier for pupils to access;
- Showbie is good for homework - it is easy to see who hasn't returned it;
- Use of verbal feedback on Showbie can be really useful for students who can process this better than written feedback. It is also a lot quicker than written comments;
- Teams is better for older pupils;
- Homework is always available for students - there can be no excuses!;
- On Teams, use of insight is great to see who is engaging with lessons whilst self-isolating.

Our parents and carers said:

- We are happy with the Digital Platforms being used;
- It is not an issue that we do not receive homework notifications - we want our children to be more independent.



*1 - WORKING TOGETHER*

**What is tricky?:**

Our pupils said:

- When homework is posted in the discussion rather than the assignments it can get lost;
- Sometimes the instructions are not very clear;
- You get lots of notifications so it is hard to keep track;

- Having all the old homework assignments up makes a bit difficult to know which one is the current one;
- Some subjects use Showbie and some subjects use Teams;
- Although there is work available for most subjects not many subjects provide a daily instruction of what to do - which would be really helpful if you are self-isolating;
- It would be helpful if all our subjects posted work in the same way;
- If you are N3 / S4, there is not a lot of work posted.

Our staff said:

- Sometimes pupils do not note down the Showbie code correctly;
- Some pupils do not bring their iPads or they do not charge them;
- Classrooms App is not working - this would be really helpful to see what pupils are working on;
- Airdropping can be an issue;
- Apple TV cuts out in some rooms;
- When pupils are self isolating, some of them are not logging in / working;
- One or two said that using two platforms is difficult;
- Posting weekly instructions would help to save time - should we look at a consistent approach?
- Pupils need to be reminded to check Showbie or Teams for work before e mailing teachers first.

Our parents and carers said:

- We need some help in how to navigate / use the digital platforms our children are using;
- It would be really helpful if all subjects used a similar template for work - this would help us to help our children find key information.



- We have appointed a PT of Digital Learning who will work alongside our Digital Leader of Learning and Departmental Digital Leads;
- Our Digital Team will work with staff and pupils to develop more consistency when posting work and homework ;

- Our Digital Strategy is being updated;
- There will be a Genius Bar operating every morning from 8.45am-8.55am in the Assembly Hall (wb 7th December). Pupils and staff can go along to ask for help with any issues they are having. Pupils can also re-set their passwords here too;
- More worked examples - with voice recordings;
- Online sessions for parents and carers to help them to help their child;
- A full evaluation of the platforms being used and their impact.

