

This week's focus ... Covid Safe Teaching

Hot Topics:

Research suggests that post lockdown and after a long time out of the classroom many students' confidence and resilience will have declined. You may have heard 'I can't do it, I don't know or It's too hard' more times than normal over the past weeks.

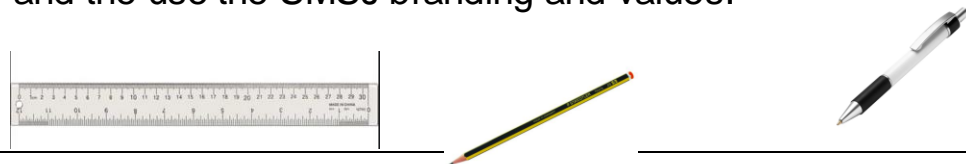
How to combat this:

- Use motivational language
- Give students the opportunity to create perfected, beautiful work that they feel proud of.
- Use brain, book, buddy, boss.
- If a student says 'I don't know' don't just ask another student. Re-phrase the question or break it down. If their response is a result of laziness warn them that the next question will be directed at them so they need to be ready.
- Make mistakes acceptable and important.

Spotted at SMSJ:

The Maths Department – using pen, pencil and ruler as effective form of whole class AFL.

Creating KS3 slides that highlight keywords for the lesson and the use the SMSJ branding and values.



Quick Win ...

Find [here](#) some key points for Covid Safe Teaching the SMSJ way.



1. Wear a mask or visor whilst teaching.
2. Distribute resources before the lesson begins or put them on the front desk of each column and ask students to pass them back.
3. Have a 'do now' activity on the board.
4. If you want to do some 'in class' written feedback pick up disposable gloves from the staffroom, invite the student to bring their book to the front and return to their seat. Use gloves to handle the book.
5. Use the visualiser. A student book can be put under a visualiser if gloves are worn. Use the 'take photo' function to allow you to photograph a student's work and give live feedback on the board.
6. Create opportunities for students to read their work aloud to check understanding.
7. Seat your class to ensure that you have easy sight of students who may struggle to stay focused.
8. Focus on using questioning to engage and check understanding. Cold calling and think-pair-share are some of the most inclusive questioning techniques. Class Charts has a random pupil generator which can help with cold calling.
9. Only allow students to dispose of things in the bin at the end of the lesson to avoid them moving into your space.
10. Welcome students straight into your classroom to avoid congestion in the corridor.
11. Keep doors and windows open at all times.
12. Finish your lesson on time to avoid students having to wait outside.
13. Put positive commitment to learning on show by writing the names of students on the board.
14. Use whole class AFL techniques such as pen/pencil/ruler or 1, 2, 3 Fingers to help you gauge progress.
15. Set home learning that you can then mark/give feedback on without talking in books. Consider using exit based activities, GCSE pad and the Learning Journal where relevant.

EduTwitter ... 'Unless we prescribe what they (students) can and cannot do, we condemn them not to freedom, but to slavery – the slavery of one's own wants...If you really want to set children free, teach them how to control themselves.'
 @tombennett71

Continuing Professional Development

How to teach without circulating:

<https://www.tes.com/news/coronavirus-teachers-back-school-how-teach-without-circulating>