



FAC VIRTUAL

Challenging, engaging and well-paced teaching prompts excellent motivation and response, with mature, yet robust classroom discussion

(ISI inspection report, 2020)

FINE ARTS
COLLEGE

TOGETHER WE'RE
EXTRAORDINARY



FAC VIRTUAL (FACv) TEACHING

Welcome to FAC (FACv) Teaching

Through ‘FACv’ we will continue to educate students at all levels of learning: YEAR 9 & 10, GCSE and A-level. These will all be enhanced with Personal Tutorials and Enrichment sessions. We will deliver frequent feedback to students through assessments and face to face tutorials. All College students will have access to, and be encouraged to join our interactive Virtual Clubs. The experience will be comprehensive, highly educational and genuinely enjoyable.

Lessons will continue as normal but with a timetable enhanced with supplementary clubs and talks. It is essential that students participate, contribute and produce work according to the deadlines set by tutors. All attendance will continue to be registered online.

The work students do in the final months of their examination year may contribute their subject grades, awarded by teachers and submitted to the exam boards. Thus, ‘FACv’ is the ideal opportunity to maximise academic performance and final results, and prepare students for the independent learning required in Higher Education.

Lower Sixth students will be given individual guidance and advice on their university and college applications, with the personal tutor helping them with their choices and offering advice on the writing of personal statements. Thus, students will continue their studies seamlessly and be at a great advantage by following such a rigorous course of study. Our aim is that all students maintain excellent progress and achieve the highest success at A level.

Students not taking public examinations this summer will have end of year course assessments as normal.

During these unprecedented times we are committed to providing the excellence of education particular to Fine Arts students. One in which:

“All pupils express high levels of self-esteem and self-confidence, and many also demonstrate considerable self-discipline.

Study skill within the classroom are excellent: pupils engage in a mature, thoughtful and analytical manner.”

(ISI inspection report, 2020)



FAC VIRTUAL (FACv) TEACHING

Why Study at FACv?

FACv is an alternative form of education necessitated by global circumstances.

Continuing students at Fine Arts have already developed a bond with their tutors, founded on mutual respect, professionalism and individual care, unlike impersonal online learning programmes. Already, our students are ambitious and keen to complete their courses to gain the grades required for academic progression.

“Pupils actively engage in developing knowledge, gaining strong levels of subject understanding.”

Challenging, engaging and well-paced teaching prompts excellent motivation and response, with mature, yet robust classroom discussion.

A major factor in this is the bonds of trust created through warm and supportive relationships between teachers and pupils.”
(ISI Inspection report, 2020)



FAC VIRTUAL (FAC_v) TEACHING

Timetable

The academic subject timetable continues as normal, following the usual timings (all times British Summer Time). For some students based in time zones well in advance (i.e. +7) of the UK, they attend most lessons but may well access some recorded sessions or arrange a separate 1:1 Google meet session with their teachers. Homework will be set as usual and submission deadlines must be adhered to by students.

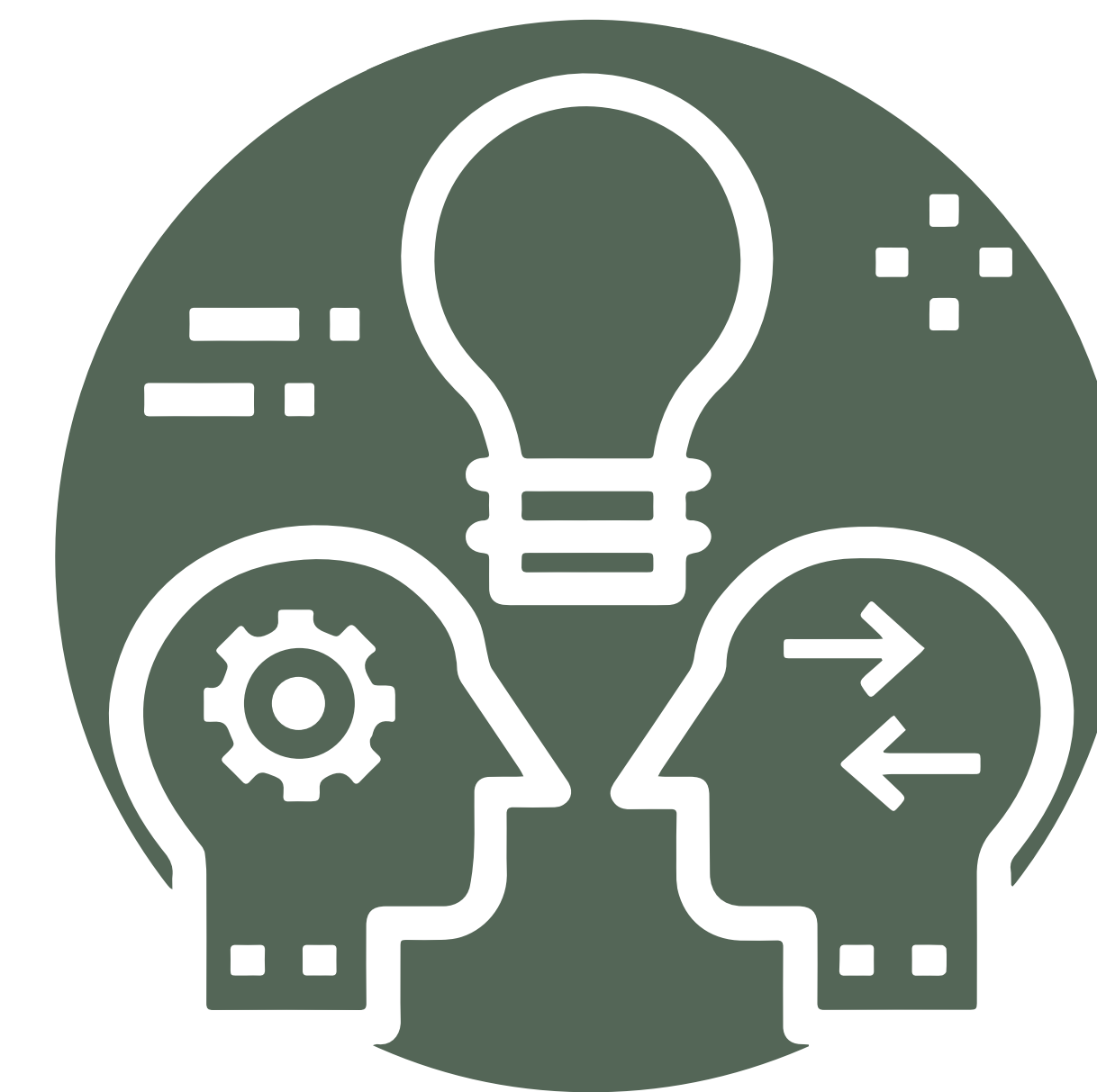


Attendance

Attendance in lessons is expected. Tutors take a register using attendance assignments as well as maintaining an analogue recording. Parents are informed of any absence from lessons/tutorials. Tutors expect students to be online at the start of the timetabled lesson and that they follow the online class Code of Conduct issued to them. In broad terms, the expectations and norms do not change.

Method and Technology

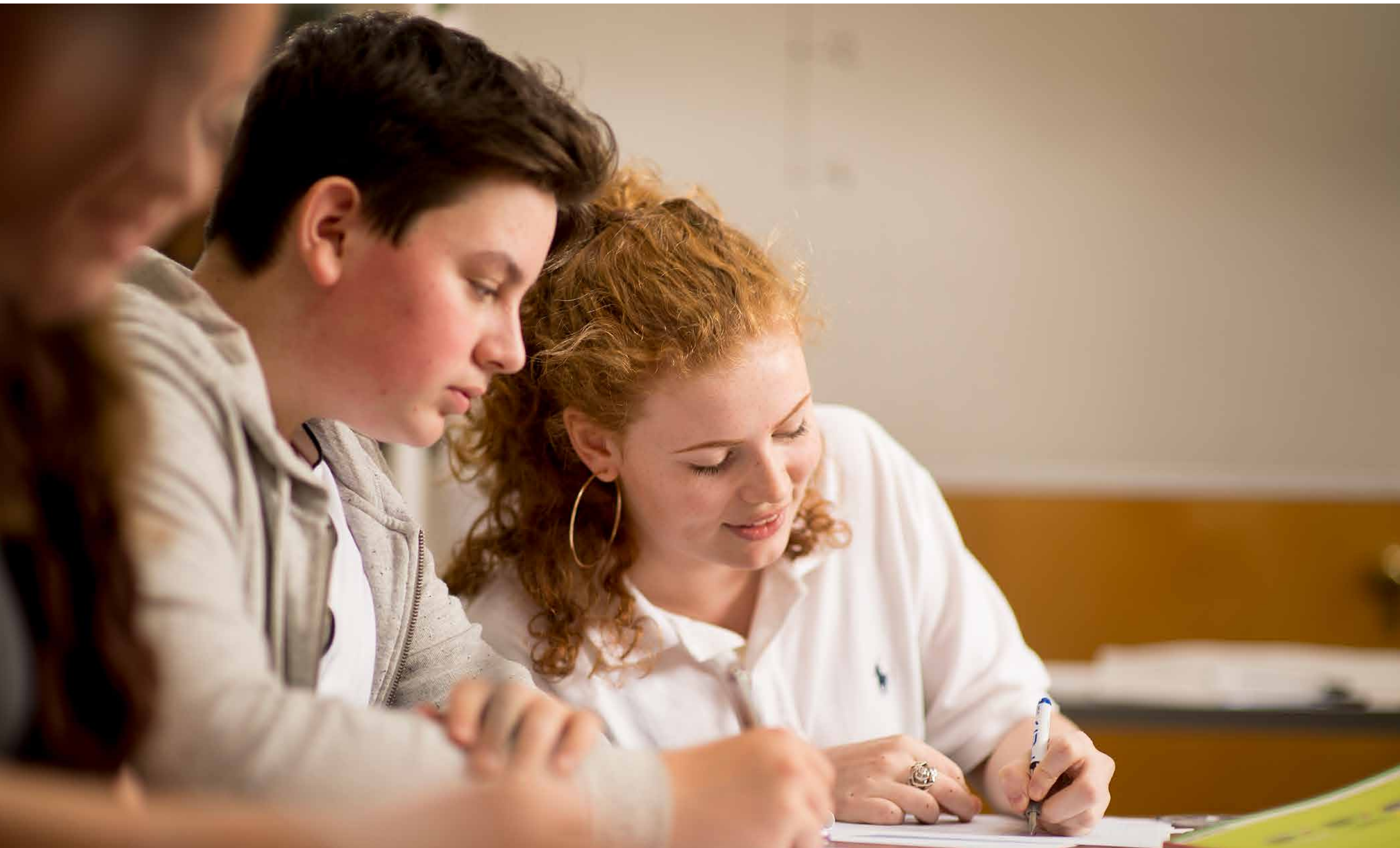
All students at FAC have a Fine Arts G-suite account that they use to access Google classroom and Google meet. This allows for a full virtual learning experience. The premise is very simple, When students have a timetabled lesson they use the ‘meet’ app and enter their class code to join the virtual lesson. A simplified system of coded lessons has been produced and distributed to all students. Tutors will greet the student, take a register and then run a live, engaged, varied and rewarding learning experience. Alongside the ‘live’ lesson Google classroom is used to share all manner of resources, set assignments, mark work, provide feedback as well as edit shared documents live with pupils.



FAC VIRTUAL (FAC_v) TEACHING

Submitting work and Teacher Feedback

All homework and extra curricular assignments are submitted using Google Classroom (GC). Different subjects have developed their own GC format for the delivery of work that takes into account the unique demands of their subjects such as Art, Textiles etc. Tutorial videos are made available to assist students with their submissions. All work is marked through GC with comments and then returned to students. Students work is also assessed during online classes and in some cases through 1 to 1 feedback sessions.



UCAS Guidance

The universities admissions process (UCAS) will be started online this summer term, and students will open their personal UCAS accounts through Fine Arts College. As is normal, personal tutors will individually advise and steer the student towards completing the Personal Statement in June.

Upper Sixth students will continue to receive UCAS support and counselling as required, to make fully informed choices when selecting their final two university choices from the offers receive.

Candida Cave is always available for students needing advice:

mail@hampsteadfinearts.com

“The vast majority of pupils successfully gain places at the universities and or colleges of their choice, principally in the fields of arts and humanities. This is due to a combination of factors: excellent, highly skilled and specialised teaching, highly motivated attitudes to learning and well-targeted preparation” (ISI Inspection report, 2020)



FAC VIRTUAL (FACv) TEACHING

Extra-curricular activities and Academic Enrichment

There will be continued provision of cultural activities during the Easter break, continuing into the summer term.

- Exercise club
- Art history club
- Digital theatre club
- English club
- Cooking club
- Exhibition club
- Film club
- Music club
- Animation club



*“In discussions with inspectors’ pupils were fulsome in their praise for the liberal ethos of the college, which they say has quietly guided them to more positive attitudes, because they felt they can now ‘be themselves’ and discover their individual interests and talents.:
(ISI Inspection report, 2020)*

Physical Health

We encourage all students to take regular exercise and to record their output. The more competitive can compare their performance to that of their friends. Regular exercise will not only maintain fitness but also reduce stress and anxiety.

Mental Health and Well-being

Our Health and Safety Officer, Tim Lynne will continue to write to all students with advice on how to stay ‘healthy in mind’ in the coming weeks. He will be suggesting a variety of strategies informed by medical best practice. Students will also continue to support each other admirably throughout a challenging period, as they always do.

The Dukes Diploma

All our Year 11 and Year 13 students will have any extra-curricular and enrichment activities completed up until the end of the summer term validated and certificated as The Dukes Diploma. Our sister colleges - Cardiff Sixth Form College, Rochester Independent College and Earlscliffe College - will also be part of The Dukes Diploma programme.





FAC VIRTUAL (FACv) TEACHING

Term Dates

These remain as published:

22 Apr – Fri 22 May and Mon 01 Jun – Wed 24 Jun 2020

No lessons on Fri 08 May which is a UK public holiday.

Our end of year exhibition is currently on hold but we will be informing all parents and students of a new date once it has been set.

Public exam entries

All public exam entries remain in place. Teachers will submit final grades for our Fine Arts students next term according to exam board published assessment criteria.

Tier 4 information

For those students on Tier 4 student (Child or General) visas, we are informed that we, the school, can mark any physical absence as ‘authorised’ without it having a negative impact on a future visa application, i.e. for UK university. Furthermore, we will have the attendance records of our online lessons as evidence if needed.

FAC VIRTUAL (FAC_v) TEACHING

Advantages of a Virtual Classroom

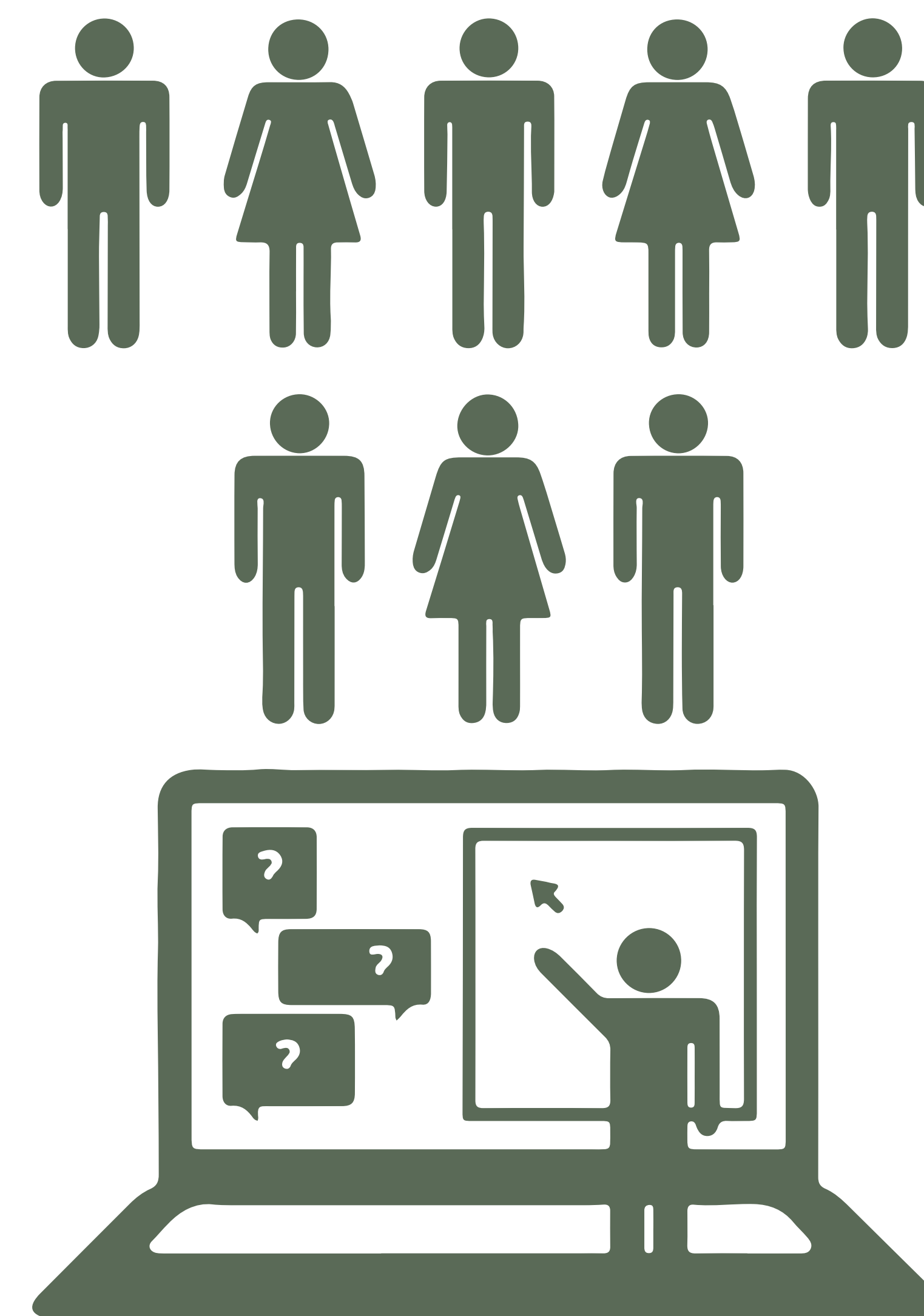
Although for many the virtual learning world will be new, for most young people the use of online technology is a familiar one. Flexibility is the most obvious advantage. Without the physical restrictions of a classroom, opportunities to expand learning, to research and take notes in your own time and in your own style are evident.

Being able to keep notes on a cloud or thread work through platforms such as Google Classroom gives learners scope to track and follow information in a way they are most comfortable within a time-frame they can set, to an extent.

Working from a home or a set study area can boost focus as the environment is often more familiar or more comfortable for the learner.

Frequent breaks that have been proven to increase the retention and recall of knowledge, are much more realistically possible

The student has greater autonomy. They have to be self-motivated thus promoting greater personal responsibility and nurturing self-reliance.



*“Pupils are highly independent, self-motivated learners, who respond with enthusiasm to the excellent teaching”
(ISI Inspection report, 2020)*

Learners can get instant access to materials, homework, answer keys, classwork and portfolio work. In many cases both sides of the virtual classroom can track changes through soft copies and see progress more clearly.

Remote learning allows greater scope for all learning styles and preferences. More reticent learners have time to formulate responses and often find their voice. Everyone has more time to understand and respond.

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Welcome to FAC (FACv) Teaching

Teachers and learners have greater opportunities to bring their personality in to the classroom. The online space allows for the inclusion of blogs, video conferencing, animation, social media, forums and other innovative technology.

The freedom in a virtual classroom allows for more creativity and broader, global perspectives to be woven into lessons.

FAC students *“show high levels of moral responsibility and understanding. Pupils have an excellent understanding and appreciation of diversity”* (ISI Inspection report, 2020)

New possibilities are opened for formative assessment and assessments of factual understanding can be automated.

The virtual learning environment is an inclusive one.

Students and faculty have limitless options for diverse and enriching learning activities and opportunities.

The FAC ‘approach’ is focused on developing self-empowerment, resilience and self-motivation.”

ISI inspection report, 2020

“Pupils are constantly being asked to reflect on their work, are always challenging, questioning and debating points, expressing these with tolerance.”

ISI Inspection report, 2020



Help and Support

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