

AH ONLINE OFFER - Information for Parents and Carers

From next session, some Advanced Higher courses will be delivered through online learning. This approach is designed to widen opportunity, protect subject choice and prepare young people for future study and employment.

Why online learning?

Online delivery allows students across the Scottish Borders to access AH courses that may not be available in every school. It enables learning to be led by specialist subject teachers and ensures equity of access for all learners, regardless of school size or location.

How will pupils be supported?

Students will be taught by a dedicated online subject teacher who is responsible for teaching, assessment and feedback. In school, students will be supported by a member of staff who provides supervision, structure and pastoral support. This ensures students are supported both academically and personally while developing independence.

Developing responsibility and independence

Online learning encourages students to take increasing responsibility for their own learning. Students develop skills in:

- Managing their time and workload
- Meeting deadlines
- Engaging with feedback
- Seeking support when needed

These are essential skills for success at university, college and in the workplace, where independent learning and self-management are expected.

Preparing for university, further education and work

The online learning model closely reflects how learning and professional development take place beyond school. Students gain experience of:

- Balancing multiple deadlines
- Communicating professionally online
- Working independently while meeting clear expectations
- Taking ownership of their progress

This supports a confident transition into further and higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

Learning with others across the Borders

Students will learn alongside S6 pupils from across the Scottish Borders, many of whom share similar interests and aspirations. This provides opportunities to collaborate with new people, broaden perspectives and build confidence working beyond their own school community.

Building digital and lifelong learning skills

Online learning develops strong digital skills, including the effective use of learning platforms, digital resources and online collaboration tools. Alongside this, pupils build transferable skills such as resilience, adaptability and self-organisation. These skills are essential for continuing education beyond school and lifelong learning in the workplace.

Online learning for Advanced Higher courses widens opportunity, strengthens independence, develops essential digital and transferable skills, and prepares students effectively for the next stage of their learning journey.