



08/01/2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Now we are nearing the end of week 1 of lockdown I wanted to let you know about my expectations for remote education. This period will be an evolution as Scholars and staff get used to such a shift in the delivery of education.

I want to be clear that the dates outlined below are subject to change and so I ask you to be flexible with us as we bring each different element on stream. We have created a whole host of video guides which you and your children will be able to view from next week from our website.

W/C Monday 11th January:

- Years 7-10 will have 5 hours of remote learning available. 4 hours as per the timetables sent out with an additional hour of Home Room based activities which will include Civics, reading and PSHCE (more on this will follow on Monday).
- Year 11 will have 5 hours of learning each day.
- Years 12-13 will follow their usual timetable.
- Teachers will pre-record key sections of each lesson to allow Scholars to understand how to work through the tasks they have been set.
- Teachers will respond to emails and messages sent through to them to give direct feedback where needed.
- Packets set as PowerPoint and a PDF to make access as simple as possible from multiple devices.
- Live Assemblies from SLT and Achievement Leads (details to be provided).
- Direct contact with Scholars who are not accessing Teams at all.

W/C Monday 18th January:

- Above continues.
- Teachers will pre-record weekly collective feedback to allow Scholars to improve their work and to fix common errors or misconceptions.
- Direct contact with Scholars whose work is not done to an acceptable standard.

W/C 25th January:

- Above continues.
- Weekly seminar style workshops for Scholars who require additional support.

I want to be clear that there is strong evidence that pre-recording delivery is **more effective** than live streaming lessons. Pre-recorded delivery allows children to work at their own pace, enables them to rewind and re-watch key sections and then apply this directly to their work. Using this also allows for flexibility for families in terms of structuring your day whilst still providing the suggested timetable I sent on Monday.

Finally, many households have more than 1 child as well as adults all working from a limited number of devices on limited streaming. It is unfair to ask families to ration who can access the internet at a certain point when dad has a Zoom meeting, mum has a Teams presentation and 3 kids have lessons all scheduled for 1pm on the same day if we don't have to.

As with everything, we will keep adapting what we do, and we will keep in contact as often as possible. It has been very difficult for me to give you a clear message on everything immediately as we have to wait for clarity from the DfE. I am hopeful that this is something that will improve, however...

It is my expectation that all students receive direct telephone contact from school by 18th January, we have already spoken to over 35% of Scholars to check up with them. To allow this to happen can I ask that you have given us updated contact numbers.

I want to thank you for your support as we enter what we hope will be a very short period away from school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Belshaw', written in a cursive style.

Damian Belshaw
Head of School