



SMA

Tuesday, 05 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following last night's announcement, I am writing to update you on our plans for remote learning now that we know that we can only open to vulnerable students and children of key workers until February half-term. We will be reviewing this on a fortnightly basis. I hope your children have been able to access the learning so far without any issues.

Our remote learning provision this week will remain the same as stated in yesterday's letter. From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, it will be as follows:

- Year 13 – All lessons live on Microsoft Teams, lasting 45 minutes. Lessons will begin at the time scheduled in a student's normal timetable
- Year 12 - All lessons live on Microsoft Teams, lasting 45 minutes. Lessons will begin at the time scheduled in a student's normal timetable
- Year 11 – A minimum of 2 live lessons on Microsoft Teams for each of the core subjects (English, Maths and Science). 1 live lesson for each option block subject. All live lessons will begin at the time scheduled in a student's normal timetable and last for 45 minutes. For other non-live lessons remote resources with teacher instruction will be made available.
- Year 10 – A minimum of 2 live lessons on Microsoft Teams for each of the core subjects (English, Maths and Science). 1 live lesson for each option block subject. All live lessons will begin at the time scheduled in a student's normal timetable and last for 45 minutes. For other non-live lessons remote resources with teacher instruction will be made available.
- Years 7 to 9 – A minimum of 1 live lesson on Microsoft Teams for each of the core subjects. 1 live lesson for Ebacc subjects (Geography or History, French or Spanish and German where applicable). All live lessons will begin at the time scheduled in a student's normal timetable and last for 45 minutes. For other non-live lessons remote resources with teacher instruction will be made available.

Students will be notified **by their subject teachers** in advance through Satchel One (previously Show My Homework) which lessons will be live and will receive an email notification when invited to attend a live lesson on Microsoft Teams. It is essential that students regularly check both Satchel One and their school email account. If a student has any issues or concerns prior to the lesson they should contact their class teacher via email or the Satchel One chat function in the first instance. Live lessons will be recorded on Microsoft Teams and will be available to access after the lesson should a student not be able to access the lesson at the time of delivery. Please refer to yesterday's letter regarding expectations. Accessing recorded live lessons?

We appreciate that remote learning is not easy for all students. We would ask that all parents and carers try to ensure that their children have a suitable place to work during the school day and follow their timetable. To help the students access Microsoft Teams, there is

a guide attached to yesterday's correspondence. There are also other useful documents on the website.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Class teachers should be contacted in the first instance where the query relates to learning or any need for additional support within lessons. Please contact child's Head of Year with any pastoral issues.

### **January External Examinations**

We have been advised by the DfE and examination boards that these will be going ahead as normal with strict social distancing measures in place. Mrs Whitfield, our Examinations Officer, will be contacting candidates directly with further details. It is imperative that no child should come on to the school site if he/she is showing Covid-19 symptoms.

### **Summer External Examinations**

Although the Prime Minister suggested that GCSE, A-level and other summer external examinations couldn't go ahead as planned, we are yet to receive further details on how Year 11 and Year 13 students will be assessed. Therefore, until we receive further guidance, it is important that all students continue to work hard from home so we are ready for any eventuality.

### **Year 13 Parents' Evening**

This will be taking place remotely as scheduled from 4pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Year 13 parents will receive further information with regards to this today.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Stephen Mansell**  
**Headteacher**