

Year 8 Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a lovely, relaxing half term and that you and your family are safe and well.

We are aware from student and parent feedback the importance of increasing our interaction with you all during this difficult period. We understand how worksheets and activities alone are taking their toll and students are yearning for greater interaction with their teachers. We will be increasing our live lessons for Key Stage Three students over the next few weeks.

The protocol surrounding the introduction of live lessons from Wednesday onwards, will be shared with parents and carers tomorrow. It will be a clear protocol which students must follow with the online lessons. Teacher Unions have also made it very clear that delivering on line lessons cannot be an expectation of our staff. Despite this, many of our teachers are prepared to try this but they are feeling out of their comfort zones. Hindsight is a wonderful thing and if we had known about this situation we face, we would have course, upskilled staff earlier and provided more technology for our teachers to utilise. Instead, we are having to manage with learning on the job. We therefore ask students and parents for their patience and support with staff who are trying their very best for you all to provide an education at a distance. Staff are rightly nervous about bringing learning into their own homes and knowing that their audience might be parents as well as children to their lessons. They accept that it is going to be hard to deliver the 'perfect lesson' that they all aspire to do in school and now from home. We have to accept that perfection will not happen right now but do our very best to provide what we can. We need to remind you that it may not always be your teacher that is running a session. We are still providing provision in school for key worker children and we are also now increasing our provision to cater for Year 10 students. Many staff are involved in this because we have a smaller staff to student ratio compared to pre lock down. Therefore, your live lessons won't necessarily be every subject and you will need to continue with the other resources your teachers provide.

Year 8

Home and Live Learning

Alongside this provision, we are still offering the on line provision. We will be increasing our live lessons too over the next few weeks. Details are below of the schedule for Year 8 for the first few weeks.

Week 1	9.30 – 10.30	11.00 – 12.00	12.45 – 1.45	2.00 – 3.00
Monday 1st June	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups
Tuesday 2nd June	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups	Staff training Teachers set work for all groups

Wednesday 3rd June	Geography live lesson	Geography live lesson	Geography live lesson	
Thursday 4th June	History live lesson	History live lesson		History live lesson
Friday 5th June	Art live lesson	Art live lesson	Art live lesson	Art live lesson

Week 2	9.30 – 10.30	11.00 – 12.00	12.45 – 1.45	2.00 – 3.00
Monday	History live lesson	History live lesson	History live lesson	History live lesson
Tuesday	Geography live lesson	Geography live lesson	Geography live lesson	Geography live lesson
Wednesday	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink
Thursday	Art live lesson	Art live lesson	Art live lesson	Art live lesson
Friday	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink	Work set on Edulink

Notes for parents and students:

- All live lessons will be recorded and made available to students at the end of each week. This will allow those students who have missed a live lesson for any reason the opportunity to catch up on anything they have missed.
- Students should check their timetables each week in case of any changes to the live lessons schedule, particularly as extra subjects may be added as time goes on.
- This timetable shows the **days** on which live lessons are taking place for particular subjects. The exact timings of these lessons for each class will be e mailed to students in advance of the lesson by the teacher leading the lesson. The teacher will also explain how students log in to the lessons, the rules for behaviour and any equipment/ materials that need to be available in the lesson.
- The teacher leading the live lesson may not be the student's usual teacher. This is because some teachers will have to work together so they can teach the whole year group in one day and may be supporting lessons rather than leading them. In addition, some English and maths teachers will be teaching year 10 groups in school and may not be teaching their usual classes.
- As well as live lessons, students will continue to have work set on Edulink. This means that, as well as having some live lessons each week, students will have enough time every day to get on with the work that has been set in other subjects. Students will need to plan ahead to ensure that as well as attending live lessons, all the work that has been set on Edulink has also been completed by the set deadlines.
- If students are unsure of which pieces of work they need to complete in a particular subject, they should e mail the talktous email or their subject teacher.
- The plan will be regularly updated to reflect any changes to current circumstances.

As ever, thank you for your support. We hope you all see our efforts of providing the very best we can for every child in this difficult situation.

Best wishes,
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