

7 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Years 7 to 13,

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the switch to remote learning for all our pupils has been both rapid and smooth considering the government announcement for the immediate closure of schools nationally. I would like to pay credit to our pupils who were engaging in Teams lessons from the first day of this current tier 5 lockdown. In the Prep school for example, at 9am yesterday morning 95% of the pupils were logged on and engaging in their first Teams lessons online. Thank you for your support in overcoming the challenges of facilitating this learning at home at this difficult time.

IT concerns

Inevitably there have been some IT glitches and I hope these have been addressed by the school so that your children can access their remote learning. Please email our Assistant Principal, Mrs Lines at slines@liverpoolcollege.org.uk, if you continue to have technological challenges with accessing your child's learning.

Key Features of Remote Learning January 2021

The key features of our current remote learning provision for pupils in the secondary phase are outlined below:

- All pupils will follow their full Lent 2021 timetable during lockdown
- Pupils should expect every lesson on their timetable (barring X periods, PE, Games and Y7 / Y8 Drama lessons) to be delivered via Microsoft Teams. These lessons will be 45 minutes long to ensure sustainability in home working environments. This will not necessarily mean 45 minutes of teacher talking and teacher delivery. As with regular face to face lessons in school, these lessons may be broken up with independent tasks or indeed small group work via breakout rooms
- There is an expectation that assessments, both formal and informal, will continue during Lent 1 for all pupils
- Games and PE lessons will not happen in the secondary phase as part of the timetabled lessons. Instead, the PE department have been tasked with the creation of a scheme to promote daily / regular activity in the context of promoting healthy lifestyles. Details of this will be shared via Show My Homework
- NSI lessons to go ahead via Teams according to the Lent term timetable
- There will be no timetabled Drama lessons in Years 7 and 8. Again, some suggested optional drama activities will be placed on SMHK

• Form time will be via Teams every day at 2pm to 2.15pm as a pastoral check in for pupils.

Timings of Teams lessons

The timings of Teams lessons are the same as timetabled lessons in school last term i.e.

Year 7 - 9:

Lesson 1: 8.30 - 9.30
Lesson 2: 9.30 - 10.30
Lesson 3: 11.00 - 12.00

Lesson 4: 1.00 - 2.00
PM REG: 2.00-2.15
Lesson 5: 2.15 - 3.15

Year 10 - 13:

Lesson 1: 9.30-10.30
Lesson 2: 11.00-12.00
Lesson 3: 12.00 - 1.00
PM REG: 2.00-2.15
Lesson 4: 2.15 - 3.15
Lesson 5: 3.15 - 4.15

Positive Behaviour for Learning during Remote Teams lessons

I have been extremely impressed by the maturity and positive engagement of our pupils in their remote learning during the early days of this second school closure. Please remind your sons and daughters that the same behaviour policy with its associated consequences such as behaviour points in SIMS, or positive PPC points for excellent behaviour for learning, will continue as they do when pupils are in school.

On site learners

On site learners, which we are hoping to keep to a minimum given the current Covid transmission rates, will follow the same timetable of remote lessons as those pupils working from home.

GCSE and A' Levels Summer 2021

And finally, you will be aware from the news that the Summer 2021 public examinationshave been cancelled and schools will produce so called 'Centre Assessed Grades' (CAGs). Whilst the Secretary of State for Education yesterday assured schools that teacher's evidence rather than the ill-fated algorithms of last summer will determine these grades, precise details of what evidence will be required and how this will be moderated is yet to be published.

I understand that parents and carers of YII and Year 13 students are, like us, keen to know how this process will work and especially what pieces of evidence, such as mock examination results, will contribute to these final grades. Please be reassured that we will share with you details when they become available; however, experience tells us that this

may not be for some time. We would urge you all to be patient and not to email individual subject teachers asking what your child's grades will be at this stage. You should also assume that, unlike for Year 11 and Year 13 in the first lockdown at the end of the Lent Term 2020, all work completed from now on and during the current lockdown, will contribute to the final grade. Therefore continued 100% attendance for Teams lessons and completion of work set is expected for all examination year groups.

Any further concerns regarding our remote learning provision, please do not hesitate to contact me at ahaynes@liverpoolcollege.org.uk.

Kind regards,

Mrs A Haynes Vice Principal