



8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. Following my video message to you yesterday there are number of things I need to update you on.

- 1) I hope you had a chance to view my [video message](#) which I sent out to you yesterday.
- 2) The website has been updated following the announcement of the school closure. The first point of reference for parents and carers should be the [January 2021 School Closure](#) page.
- 3) Following the confirmation from the Secretary of State on Wednesday that summer 2021 exams were cancelled, Mr Park has produced a second [video message for students in Years 11 and Years 13](#). This has been sent directly to students but I would urge you to watch this update with them if you are able to.
- 4) As I set out to you in the video message I referred to at the start of this letter we want to increase the number of lessons that are broadcast live on Microsoft Teams to students. This will be phased in following this pattern:

	Week Beginning 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Week Beginning 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	From 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Years 11,12 & 13	All teachers will increase the frequency of live lessons	All lessons will be live	All lessons will be live
Year 10	Some teachers will increase the frequency of live lessons	The majority of lessons will be live	All lessons will be live
Years 7-9	Some lessons may be live	More lessons will be live	50% of lessons will be live
Years 7-11 Tutor Groups	Friday 8:50 am tutor period will be live	Monday and Friday 8:50 am tutor period is live	Monday and Friday 8:50 am tutor period is live

As I indicated to you in the video message, we are having to adjust our plans quickly in the current context. It is right that we move as quickly to live lessons as we can but it is also important that we make sure we do so safely and when we can be secure that teachers have the expertise to deliver these well. Parents and Carers should be aware that:

- Mr Park will publish a set of information and guidelines for parents and students early next week. This will be published on the [remote curriculum page](#) of our website.
- Students will not be expected to turn their camera on during the lessons.
- Students will know if a lesson is being broadcast live because the teacher will send a link on Show My Homework.

- When a lesson is not being taught live then the work will be set as it is now on Show My Homework
  - There may be occasions when planned live lessons are cancelled (for instance because the teacher is unwell). If this happens then work will be set on Show My Homework
- 5) We can now apply to some mobile phone providers to increase data allowances for students. The information on this scheme is [here](#). If this would help your child have access to the remote curriculum resources, then you can complete this [form](#) and we will make the request on your behalf.
- 6) Year 9 Parents' Evening is going ahead as planned. Parents and Carers have been sent details on how to make an appointment and how the evening will work in this [letter](#). Year 9 parents should also be aware that Mr Park will shortly publish information on how the GCSE options process will work this year.
- 7) We are going to restart Sixth Form interviews using video conferencing. If you have already applied for a place, then our Sixth Form team will be in touch. If you haven't already applied, then please make sure you do so as soon as possible. The details on how to apply are [here](#).
- 8) Lateral Flow testing is now in place and is being offered weekly to all students and staff who are in school. This week we have conducted over 100 tests. When the government allow us to have students back then this will be another important safety measure that we can use to make sure students can return to school safely and to minimise transmission once they are in school. [Full details are here](#).

As ever, thank you for your continued support and the work that you are doing to keep your children on track whilst they are at home.

Take Care

Yours faithfully



Andrew George  
Head Teacher