



Dear Parents and Carers

Hi All,

I hope you are all well and finding some way of surviving the challenges we are all facing at the moment. Hopefully, this set of updates and reminders will help you continue to support your children as they access our remote curriculum.

## Live Lessons

Last week I [wrote to you](#) and set out how we were increasing the number of lessons that are broadcast live on Microsoft Teams. Colleagues have produced these resources which you will find helpful as you support/encourage your children to access these lessons:

- 1) This [video guide](#) will take you and your child through every step they need to follow to access the live lessons.
- 2) This [document](#) sets out our expectations of students' behaviour in live lessons.

## Timings of the School Day

Parents should be aware that because we still have some students in school who are following the remote curriculum, lessons will follow the timings that we operated in school last term. These are set out in text and a graphic at the end this letter.

## Tracking Student Engagement

One of our many priorities at the moment is to understand how we can quickly and efficiently identify students who are not engaging in some or all of the remote curriculum so that we can contact you and work together to understand what we can do to quickly find solutions where engagement is a concern. There is a well-established process for students in the Sixth Form that will continue. However, for other students you might find it helpful to know that from Monday:

- Pastoral Teams will contact parents if students are not attending the live morning tutor sessions at 8:50 am on a Monday and Friday.
- Where there is persistent non-engagement from a student we have asked subject teachers to send them a message on Show My Homework in the first instance. Parents can access these messages by [logging on](#) to their own Show My Homework account. If you are trying to log on for the first time, then you will need your Parent ID. If you haven't got your Parent ID then please email [h.desk@kimberleyschool.co.uk](mailto:h.desk@kimberleyschool.co.uk). Please be aware that they will respond within two working days.

Please remember that if we contact you, we are trying to help. We know how hard this is for you as well. We understand that sometimes our information is wrong but it is right for us to check. If you are concerned about your child's engagement then please don't wait for us to contact you, please continue to contact the relevant pastoral team through school reception if you need support.

In the coming weeks, we will be able to ask staff to complete registers for attendance at live lessons and this will give us a sophisticated mechanism for identifying students who may not be engaging in the remote curriculum.

## **Year 8 Exam Week**

This was scheduled to run during week beginning Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. As these exams cannot now run, subject teams will work to ensure that teachers are able to undertake ongoing assessment of students' progress through the tasks that they are set in the remote curriculum. We will then use this information from teachers to share a progress report with parents in advance of the parents' evening which will be shared with parents before the Easter holiday. Parents' will be able to meet teachers in the online parents' evening which will take place immediately following the Easter holiday.

## **Year 11 Parents' Evening**

This will go ahead on-line as planned on the 27<sup>th</sup> January. Details on how to make appointments will be shared with parents in the next few days. This will be a good opportunity for you to understand: how your son/daughter performed in the mock exams last term; how successfully they are engaging with the remote curriculum; and what the next steps are in each subject area.

## **Year 11 and 13 Grading Process**

You may have some stories in the press this week speculating about what the process for awarding grades will be. At this stage, the Ofqual consultation has not been published and so I would urge everyone to wait until we see the first details of what is planned. I am worried that speculating about things that may or may not actually happen will be unhelpful to the students in these years and I would repeat these two key messages to Year 11 and Year 13 students.

- Understanding what the process for awarding grades will be is our problem not theirs. When we know what is happening we will work to put a place a process that is fair for all students. This is for us to worry about, not them.
- It is crucial that all students in Years 11 and 13 continue to commit themselves to their work in the same way that they would have done if summer exams were going ahead.

There is one aspect of the speculation that I do think we all need to be mindful of. There does seem to be agreement between Ofqual and the Department for Education on this point that is set out in the communication between the Secretary of State and the Chair of Ofqual:

***“Given the disruption children and young people have faced, it is vital we maximise the remaining opportunity for them to be taught for as long as possible, so they have every opportunity to catch up. This will enable them to successfully progress, be that onto further or higher education or employment. It is my view that a teacher’s final judgement on a student’s grade ought to be as late as possible in the academic year to maximise remaining teaching time and ensure students are motivated to remain engaged in education.”***

Traditionally, exams finish before the end of term and I know that many families plan holidays for older students in the time between exams finishing and schools closing towards the end of July. Whilst there are no details on this I would suggest that parents are mindful of the possibility that students in Years 11 and 13 may be expected to attend school until later in the summer term than they would normally do so. I cannot be certain that this will be the case but I think it is reasonable that I raise this possibility with you now.

## Sixth Form Interviews

Interviews with Year 11 students who have applied for the Sixth Form are now up and running again and are being conducted on Microsoft Teams. If your son or daughter wants to come to the Sixth Form next year and hasn't yet done so then I would urge them to submit their [application](#) as soon as possible.

As ever, thank you for your support and the kind comments you continue to send into school. Please don't forget that I have set out the timings of the school day at the end of this letter for your information.

Yours Faithfully,



Andrew George  
Head Teacher

## Timings of the School Day

Tutor Time. 8:50 to 9:00 am. Tutor Time is broadcast live on a Monday and Friday

Period 1. 9:00 to 10:00 am

Period 2 (Y7&10) 10:20 to 11:20 am

Period 2 (Y8) 10:05 to 11:20 am including a 15 minute break at 10:35 am

Period 2 (Y9,11,12 &13) 10:05 to 11:05 am

Period 3. 11:25 – 12:25 pm

Period 4 (Y7&10) 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Period 4 (Y8) 12:30 to 2:00 pm including a 30 minute lunch at 1:00pm

Period 4 (Y9,11,12 &13) 12:30 to 1:30 pm

Period 5. 2:05 to end of school

	Tutor 10 mins 8:50 - 9:00	Period 1 60 mins 9:00 - 10:00	Period 2 75 mins 10:05 - 11:20 Includes 15 min break	Period 3 60 minutes 11:25 - 12:25	Period 4 90 minutes 12:30 - 2:00 Includes 30 min lunch 12:30 - 1:00 1:00 - 1:30 1:30 - 2:00	Period 5 60 minutes 2:05 - 3:05
7			break		Lunch	2:50
8			break		Lunch	2:55
9			break		Lunch	3:00
10			break		Lunch	3:05
11			break		Lunch	3:05
12 & 13			break		Lunch	3:05

  

Canteen & ball courts	Hall 1 / Hall 2 / outside area	VI Form Centre
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