



14 January 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

For Students, Parents and Carers of Year Groups 7-11

As we move towards the end of the first full week of following the live lesson timetable sent out last Friday, we are writing to clarify a few queries, which some parents have raised with us.

Timing of Lessons

The start time for all the live lessons is exactly the same as the start time for lessons when we have been in school this year and these will be reflected in the timings sent out as links to join the live lessons. To clarify, these times are:

- Period 1 - 8.50am
- Period 2 - 9.50am
- Period 3 - 11.10am
- Period 4 - 1.10pm
- Period 5 - 2.10pm

Timing of sending live lesson links and resources for remote learning

In order to ensure students and parents can successfully organise themselves for the day, the posts on Show My Homework for each lesson, whether these be links for live lessons or the work to be completed independently, will appear on the day of the lesson. This has been done to avoid an issue which occurred during last year's lockdown where parents and students were understandably concerned that on some days work for only a couple of lessons might appear, whilst on others there was work appearing for upwards of eight different subjects.

Whilst we recognise that some students and parents like to prepare the day before for their lessons the next day, on balance we believe that using the timetable and having clarity of the work for each day is the more successful approach to use.

Engagement with Tutor Group based activities

Today was the first day on which assemblies have been held and whilst attendance at these was good, it was not of the same magnitude as we are seeing in lessons. We would therefore like to clarify what the regular expectation is for students to engage with tutor group based activities.

- Students should be registering with their tutor at 8.40am **every morning**
- Students should join their Year group or House assembly at 12.10pm **every Wednesday**. In order to join an assembly, students should use the link, which will be shared on SMHW on the morning of the assembly. A scheduled assembly will not appear in students' calendars.
- Students should join a Personal Development lesson with their tutor at 12.10pm **every Thursday**

The sessions on Wednesday and Thursday will last for a maximum of 30 minutes. There are no sessions for students with tutors at 12,10pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

We are enormously grateful for the many supportive messages we have received from parents about the current provision and have been extremely impressed with the very high degree of engagement from students. We hope the information here helps to address the queries which have been raised.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Sharpe
Deputy Headteacher