



June 12th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

In line with current Government Guidance, we expect all of our students in years 7 – 9 to be studying from home for the remainder of this term. Years 10 and 12 will also be studying from home for most of their time. We have been thinking hard about what more we can do to support and engage every one of our students. We all know how important it is that they do not fall behind in their education despite the challenges of studying from home.

We appreciate the feedback we have had from those of you who filled out a survey for us last week. So far we have 190 responses from Year 10 parents/carers and 191 responses from years 7-9. If you are the parent/carer of a child in year 7, 8 or 9 and have not yet completed the survey, please do as it is really helping us get the right support in place for all of our students. You can find the survey here <https://bit.ly/2XXy1X8>.

We have learnt a lot in the first 10 weeks of being a virtual school. From next week, we are introducing some extra support and new activities. Your child will receive an email today letting them know all about this, with a copy of a new timetable showing when different support is taking place. Details of the key changes are set out below. You will find all of our new Virtual School timetables at the end of this letter. You can also learn all about these changes here: <https://youtu.be/oDSYUCapOLA>.

We are making these changes because we want your child to achieve as much as possible in this last part of term. We know how difficult it can be to stay motivated and hope this will help. There is plenty of time to catch up so please do not get stressed if your child is struggling with their work – we will support you and your child every step of the way. Please do not hesitate to ask for help if you are concerned.

From next week, your child will get to see their teachers for Form Time, Academic Support and Assemblies, as long as they have internet access. They will need to use Microsoft Teams and especially the Calendar, where they can find all of their sessions. You can find a video here to help them work out how to do this: <https://youtu.be/bnJdosUJdcU>.

For those of you without devices or internet, we are going to try to find more ways to support you too. Please keep going with your workpacks for now and we will be in touch about internet connectivity. (If you have not filled in our survey, please do so as this is helping us identify where that support is needed).

Year Group Assembly: Tuesday 9.30 a.m. every 2 weeks starting June 15th

Your Head of Year will be holding an assembly every 2 weeks to keep in touch and let students know what is happening. Don't miss it!

Form Time: Wednesday 9.30 a.m. every week starting June 16th

Every Wednesday morning students will have time with their Form Tutor on Microsoft Teams. This is a great chance to catch up with their form and have some time with their form tutor.

Academic Support : different days for different subjects – check your timetable!

Each week, there will be one hour when a subject teacher will be on-line in Teams ready to talk to your child, find out how they are getting on, answer questions, help with tricky bits of the work and talk to them about what is coming up the next week. This is really important for your child's academic progress.

Celebration Assembly: every Friday

Each Friday, we will be celebrating students' great achievements with an on-line celebration assembly, This will be recorded and posted on our website and all of our social media – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

We have made a special code of conduct to help keep everyone happy and safe on-line – it is really important your child understands and follow these rules so please do talk to them about our expectations and standards.

School Rules for On-Line Communication

Our Virtual School will use school emails and Microsoft Teams to communicate with students for the purposes of academic and pastoral support.

E-Mails

- Only use your school e-mail address.
- Use respectful language in all e-mail communication

On-Line Meetings

- On-line meetings will take place in Microsoft Teams
- All meetings will be scheduled on your Microsoft Teams Calendar.
- An on-line meeting may involve one or more of the following:
 - **Video Mode:** You may opt to have cameras on or off . You must be dressed appropriately for a video call. All video meetings will be recorded by the member of staff for the purposes of safeguarding.
 - **Audio Mode:** You will be able to join in without using video link. All Audio calls will be recorded by the member of staff for the purposes of safeguarding.
 - **Text- Chat Mode:** You may communicate using a text-chat function in Microsoft Teams during any on-line Academic support session or Form Time. . All messages written by students must be respectful and use language appropriate for a work environment.

Students are not permitted to record any meetings on Teams under any circumstances.

On-line abuse and bullying will not be tolerated!

Next week, we welcome our year 10 and 12 students back on site for 1 to 1 well-being meetings, to be followed by weekly Study Support from June 23rd. All of our on-site activity is following Government Guidance and strict social distancing so that we can be sure we are keeping everyone in our school community safe. We are only allowed to have 25% of the students in years 10 and 12 on site at any one time. This means that students in years 10 and 12 will also still studying at home for the majority of their time for the rest of this term.

We very much hope your child will make the most of these new opportunities: we really miss everyone and while we are not able to see you back in school, we look forward to seeing many more of our students on-line next week!

As ever, if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly, alternatively you may want to contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

Best wishes,

Emma Leaman

Emma Leaman
Headteacher

Updated Timetables – These are also available on our school website in the Portal Sections for each year group, along with an overview of all of the topics being studied this half term.

	Lesson 1: 10am-11am	Lesson 2: 11am-12pm	Lesson 3: 1pm-2pm	Lesson 4: 2pm-3pm
Monday	English	Maths	Science	History
Tuesday Year Assembly 9.30 a.m (fortnightly beginning 16 th June)	Geography	Drama	Maths	RE
Wednesday Form Time 9.30am	Art	English	History	Technology
Thursday	Maths	Science	Geography	Music
Friday Celebration Assembly	Science	French	ICT	English

*Your current technology rotation teacher will set you work. We will let you know when this changes.

During the sessions highlighted in green, a teacher from that subject area will be available live on Teams to offer help and support should you need it. This also applies to Form Time on a Wednesday morning. You can get to these sessions through your calendar, just click on 'Join Microsoft Teams Meeting'

Celebration Assembly will be posted on social media and our website

Opening Minds & Opening Doors

Virtual Timetable for Year 8

	Lesson 1: 10am-11am	Lesson 2: 11am-12pm	Lesson 3: 1pm-2pm	Lesson 4: 2pm-3pm
Monday	Science	French	ICT	English
Tuesday Year Assembly 9.30 a.m. (fortnightly beginning 16 th June)	Music	Science	Geography	Maths
Wednesday Form Time 9.30am	English	Maths	Science	History
Thursday	Geography	Drama	Maths	RE
Friday Celebration Assembly	Art	English	History	Technology

*Your current technology rotation teacher will set you work. We will let you know when this changes.

During the sessions highlighted in green, a teacher from that subject area will be available live on Teams to offer help and support should you need it. This also applies to Form Time on Wednesdays. You can get to these sessions through your calendar, just click on 'Join Microsoft Teams Meeting'.

Celebration Assembly will be posted on social media and our website

Opening Minds & Opening Doors

Virtual Timetable for Year 9

	Lesson 1- 10am-11am	Lesson 2: 11am-12pm	Lesson 3 1pm-2pm	Lesson 4 2pm-3pm
Monday	Seneca/Audible	Option 2	English	Maths
Tuesday Year Assembly 9.30 a.m. (fortnightly beginning 16 th June)	Maths	Option 3	Science	Option 1
Wednesday Form Time 9.30am	Option 3	Science	English	Maths
Thursday	GCSEPod	English	Option 2	Science
Friday Celebration Assembly	English	Maths	Science	Option 1

*During the sessions highlighted in green, a teacher from that subject area will be available live on Teams to offer help and support should you need it. This also applies to Form Time on Wednesdays. You can get to these sessions through your calendar, just click on 'Join Microsoft Teams Meeting'.

For option subjects, your teacher will confirm which slot is your on-line slot, it will only be once a week. Where there is more than one group for your subject, you will need to find the name of your teacher to know whether you are in Option group 1, 2 or 3. For example Mr Clarke's Art group are option 2.

Option 1 subjects:	Option 2 subjects:	Option 3 subjects:
Business Studies Food- (Tues 2 on normal timetable) French- (Tues 2 on normal timetable) Geography-Weston History- Lewis, Clarke Performing Arts RE Sport-Butt	Art-Clarke Film Studies French-(Wed 4 group on normal timetable) Geography- Clarke Graphics-(Wed 4 group on normal timetable) Health and Social Care-(Wed 4 group on normal timetable) History-Love Sport-Bennett, Ramsey	Art-Flynn Computer Science D and T (RM) Food-(Wed 1 group on normal timetable) Geography-Ward Graphics- (Wed 1 group on normal timetable) Health and Social Care-(Wed 1 group on normal timetable) History- McHale Music

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Virtual Timetable for Year 10

	Lesson 1: 10am-11am	Lesson 2: 11am-12pm	Lesson 3: 1pm-2pm	Lesson 4: 2pm-3pm
Monday	Science	Option 2	English	Option 3
Tuesday Year Assembly 9.30 a.m. (fortnightly beginning 16 th June)	Maths	Option 3	Science	Option 1
Wednesday Form Time 9.30am	Option 1	Science	English	Maths
Thursday	Science	English	Maths	Option 2
Friday Celebration Assembly	Science	Maths	Science	English

The afternoon sessions highlighted in green are **Academic Support** sessions, during which your class teachers will be online to support you with your work. You **must** join your class during these sessions via your calendar by clicking 'Join Microsoft Teams Meeting'. This also applies to Form Time on Wednesdays.

For option subjects, where there is more than one group, you will need to find the name of your teacher to know whether you are in Option group 1, 2 or 3. For example, Mr Clarke's art group is option 2.

Option 1 subjects	Option 2 subjects	Option 3 subjects
Geography- Ward, Clarke, McHale, Weston History-Clarke, Love, Finch, Dainty	Art-Clarke Food-Summerfield, Wilcox French-Gauthier Graphics History- Lewis Performing Arts-Tombs Sport-Tucker, Queen	Art-Qazi Creative iMedia D and T (RM) Health and Social Care Film Studies Rushton, Gleave French-Genner Music Sport-Brookes, Summers

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