

15 March 2021

Dear Families,

Home Learning Provision: Live Online Lessons via Teams

We are very pleased to have reopened the academy to all year groups last week. However, there may be times when students are required to self-isolate and will then need to complete work from home. In order to support learning whilst students are at home, they will be able to attend their timetabled lessons live through the online platform Teams. This will ensure students learning from home can access high quality teacher explanations which will be tailored to their needs. This will allow students to keep up with their learning and avoid missing key content. Students will be able to listen to their teacher's explanations and instructions and see the lesson resources through Teams. The live online lesson will be the same lesson the teacher is delivering to the students who are in the classroom.

This will start for Years 7-10 week commencing Monday 22 March and for Year 11 week commencing Monday 19 April. This is so there will be no disruption to lessons from testing and mock exams.

Year 7 and 8 students will be expected to attend their timetabled lessons of the following subjects:

- English, maths, science, RE, history, geography and Spanish.

Year 9, 10 and 11 students will be expected to attend their timetabled lessons of all subjects apart from core PE. Please note for practical GCSE subjects (art, photography, music, drama and science) there will be times when it will be difficult to access live online lessons for these subjects due to students having no access to the required resources when learning from home. This will be communicated to the students by their teacher for those subjects and instead students will be directed to complete home learning work through the resources uploaded to SharePoint for that week.

If your child is required to self-isolate and they do not display COVID symptoms then it will be compulsory for your child to attend their timetabled lessons via Teams. If your child tests positive for COVID and they are asymptomatic then it will be optional for your child to attend their timetabled lesson via Teams. We will monitor the attendance of those students for who it is compulsory to attend their timetabled lessons online. Non-attendance will be communicated to parents.

All students accessing live online lessons must follow these expectations:

- Students should not use cameras during these lessons. However, if there is an issue and the camera function did come on we would ask that students are wearing their school uniform.
- Students will be muted at all times and will only communicate to their teacher via the Chat function when directed.
- Students should not write in the chat when the teacher is explaining and modelling to the class. Students should be listening at this point to help them understand the new content or skill that is being taught in the lesson.
- Students should wear headphones throughout the lesson to avoid disturbing other people in their household.
- Students should have their equipment ready for the lesson.
- Students should join their live online lessons at the scheduled time in the calendar and not arrive late. They will need to wait in the lobby until their teacher admits them. Teachers will need time to set up their classroom.



- Students should engage with all activities and email their completed work straight after the lesson to their subject teacher.
- If a student has IT issues during an online lesson, they must leave the call and return back to their Teams calendar and join the lesson again. They must wait in the lobby until their teacher admits them back into the lesson.

If any of the following expectations listed above are not followed then access to online live lessons will be reduced or removed and your child will complete home learning work through the resources uploaded to SharePoint weekly.

The timetable is as follows for each year group and the timings below will be used when scheduling the lessons. Students will receive invites for the online lessons to their school email address from their teachers this week in preparation for if they are required to self-isolate.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Period 1	08:25-09:20	08:25-09:20	08:25-09:20	08:10-09:20	08:00-09:20
Period 2	09:20-10:15	09:20-10:15	09:20-10:15	09:20-10:15	09:20-10:15
Period 3	10:15-10:45 11:05-11:35	10:15-11:15	10:35-11:35	10:35-11:35	10:15-11:15
Period 4	11:35-12:35	11:35-12:35	12:35-13:45	11:35-12:35	11:35-12:35
Period 5	13:45-14:40	13:45-14:40 *13:45-14:45	13:45-14:40	13:45-14:40 *13:45-14:45	13:45-14:40 *13:45-14:50
Period 6	14:40-15:30	14:40-15:35	14:40-15:30	14:40-15:35	14:40-15:40

***Please note on Thursday and Friday there is no period 6 for any year group and there is a different finishing time on those days for Year 8, 10 and 11 students.**

There will be occasions where teachers may have IT issues and the online lesson may be interrupted for the students learning from home. If these circumstances arise, students will need to be patient and wait for this to be resolved. If a staff member is absent and is unable to deliver the online lessons via Teams, the academy will communicate this to parents via text message on the day the lesson was scheduled to take place. This will be for the students who are expected to attend their timetables lessons when self-isolating. Students will then complete the home learning work resources uploaded to SharePoint instead.

We recommend that students download the Teams app for desktop when accessing online lessons via Teams. This can be downloaded here: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/download-app>. Online lessons via Teams will be accessible to students using a phone, laptop or tablet device. If your child is unable to access their online lessons via Teams due to limited access to IT, they can complete the home learning work resources uploaded to SharePoint for that week at any time throughout the day. Students who are in receipt of free school meals, pupil premium funding or recognised by the academy as vulnerable may be eligible for the loan of a laptop for the duration of the isolation period to support IT access. This will be discussed with you and your child if appropriate. If a laptop is loaned, a responsible adult will need to collect and sign for the laptop, agreeing to the academy's terms and conditions for the loan. We would really appreciate your parental support with home learning and if you have any further questions please email: info@dixonska.com

Yours sincerely



Charlotte Binns
Assistant Vice Principal

