



RH/SF

7 January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Following recent government announcements we now have a little more certainty on what will happen in the weeks ahead. The government have said schools will remain closed to the majority of students until at least 22 February. This is the Monday after the half term break so students have at least another 5 weeks working at home. It is important that they access all their lessons during this time. We are now much better equipped to provide quality remote learning with all staff using Google Classroom to post resources and deliver live learning via Google Meet.

The feedback from staff after the first two days has been very positive, with many classes having almost 100% attendance! Teachers will contact you if your child has not accessed their lesson and Heads of Year will contact you to see if they can help solve any problems they may be having. We have now issued 62 lap tops to students without them and will hopefully receive a further allocation from the government as they have promised. We may also be able to help with internet access so please do contact us if needed. Your child can also access Google Classroom and other web based packages through an X-Box or PlayStation, see our tweet/FB post on 6 January.

Accessing learning in school

We have published the latest list of criteria for students classed as vulnerable and which jobs qualify as critical workers. If your child falls into either of these groups they can access this learning from within school where they can work in our IT rooms with the support of teaching assistants to access the lessons staff are delivering. If you want your child to come into school please contact the school to request a place.

Learning at home

In order to manage the reduced number of students that are in school more efficiently we are moving back to the old day structure from Monday 11 January. This means all lessons will be at the following times:

Period 1	9.05-10.05
Period 2	10.05-11.05
Break	11.05-11.25
Period 3	11.25-12.25
Lunch	12.25-1.10
Period 4	1.10-2.10

Respect | Honesty | Compassion | Resilience | Integrity | Courage

Period 5 2.10-3.10

Please encourage your child to be up, dressed and ready to learn in good time. Almost all lessons will have a live part with students given new information before work is set to be completed and 'turned in' for feedback. In some instances staff may be unable to deliver the live part of a lesson due to illness or other family commitments, so will set clear tasks to be completed on E-Praise and in Google Classroom. Every lesson will have work set, including PE activities which students may choose to complete after school, such as going for a walk, run or doing the Joe Wicks work out. Food, Art and DT may set practical activities using items typically found at home.

In order to safeguard staff and students we are operating the following procedure for live lessons:

- Student cameras should be turned off.
- All students should be on mute unless requested to answer a question by the teacher.
- Most communication will be through the chat facility.
- Students must leave the meeting when requested so the teacher can close the link securely.
- All lessons will be recorded and stored securely in Google Drive for safeguarding reasons.
- If any student behaves inappropriately in a live lesson they will be removed by the teacher and parents will be contacted.

If you have any feedback on the learning that we are providing please do contact your child's Head of Year via E-Praise or e-mail. This will be the quickest way to contact staff as they may be working at home and therefore not available in school to take phone calls.

Free School Meals

We are still awaiting details of the voucher scheme the government has promised so in the meantime will provide grab bag lunches for those entitled to free meals. Please e-mail office@tmws.co.uk before 9.30 am on any day you require a meal and it will be available to collect from the front entrance from 12.00. Meals will consist of a basic sandwich, ham, cheese or tuna, tray bake and piece of fruit. Please state preferences in your e-mail request along with the name of your child.

Students accessing learning in school will be able to use the canteen which will continue to provide a choice of hot food and snacks throughout lockdown.

Drop off and collection

We have set up the drop off and pick up tables inside the front doors that can be accessed without coming into school. Students and parents entering this area should wear face coverings, use the hand sanitiser provided and socially distance. The quickest way to see schools re-open is for us all to follow the lockdown rules. Your children should be at home during the school day and not out meeting with friends at all during this period.

I will keep parents updated over the coming weeks via regular newsletters and will write again if we have any more information on plans for schools to re-open. In the meantime please do keep us informed, school will be open every day from 7.00 am till 6.00 pm for collection of books/resources or to drop off work and the switchboard open from 7.30 am to 4.30 pm. I am pleased to report our phones are now fixed after the fault we discovered on Monday morning.

I wish you well and hope home learning is easier the second time around! Remember we are still here to support you and your children.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

Richard Harrison
Headteacher