



West Hatch High School

A Specialist Business and Enterprise School

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17th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to give you a quick update on a number of aspects of school that relate to you and your children.

Teaching and Learning Update for;

Year 12

All Year 12 students now have 2 live online lessons per subject that they are taking per week. This seems to have started well and I have had positive feedback from staff and parents. This will continue until the end of term.

Year 10

It has been fantastic to see our Year 10 students coming back into school and their attitude and behaviour has been exemplary. We will continue with face to face lessons once per week for core with supplementary work at home until the end of this academic year. Those students that cannot come into school have access to pre-recorded lessons via show my homework so that they do not miss out on additional support.

Year 10 Non-Core and Year 7,8 and 9

From Monday, 22nd June, every child will receive at least one lesson per subject per week that has been pre-recorded, either through narration or video by the teacher and is therefore instructional. The only subjects that may have one fortnightly are those which only teach students once per week such as RS at KS3. Some subjects are also providing students with time slots where they can go onto Microsoft Teams and ask any questions they have directly to the teacher, other subjects are keeping communication channels open through email or show my homework.

Parents Evenings for Year 7 and 12

It is now clear we are not able to have large groups of people in school. We have therefore spent the last two weeks producing fully written reports for all students in these two year groups. These will be distributed in the coming weeks and will give parents a flavour of how their child has performed in lessons over the course of the year.

Awards Evenings and Year 7 Graduation

Clearly it will not be possible to run these events, however we want to celebrate our students' successes this year so will be holding virtual awards evenings. We have been collecting nominations from teachers and will be finalising these virtual events soon.

Catch Up and Challenge Week

Many of our students are very conscientious and are still struggling to keep up with the amount of work being set for them at home. The well-being week was very popular amongst students and parents so the week beginning **Monday 29th June** we will be having a catch up and challenge week. No new work will be set during this week but we will be setting challenges from different departments for students to complete for House Points. These will be collated and will go towards the House Cup at the end of the year. We will also be holding a virtual sports day in the last week of term.



If you feel you need additional work for your children I'd like to direct you to the online Oak National Academy which has been highly recommended by the staff and students.

Exams

Unlike some schools, I do not feel it is fair on our students to set end of year exams under the current circumstances. When we return, we will be having a short period of consolidation and then assessing students to see where their gaps are. This will in all likelihood take place during the final weeks in September.

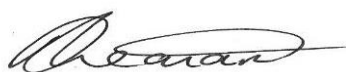
We have also decided to move our Year 11 and 13 PPE (mock) examinations which will now commence on the first day back in January 2021. This gives staff and students time to learn what they need to, catch up on what they have missed and be prepared for the examinations. We usually hold the PPE's in November.

Microsoft Teams

With our updated teaching strategy and potential of continued remote working in the new academic year, we have spent considerable time installing, preparing and training staff on using Microsoft Teams. Year 12 are now using it and we will be rolling it out across all year groups over time. It would be useful if students downloaded it and started to become more used to its layout, some staff are already using it for setting work in other year groups. Please see below with an explanation of how to download it to your computer or other devices.

I hope this email finds you well and that you can see the changes we are making are as a result of the feedback we have been receiving.

Kind regards



Daniel Leonard
Headteacher

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Instructions to access Microsoft Teams

This is your child's first experience with Teams and therefore I'm sure there are a few questions as to what you should be doing to get into Teams. The whole process is very simple and there is no need for any special username or password. If your child has a phone, tablet, or laptop you can download the desktop App from the link below.

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/download-app>

Then all you need to do is for your child to enter their school email and password and then it will link with the school accounts.

If you are sharing computers and using Teams for your business you will need to log out of your work account to allow your child to log in to our school account.