



## Parent Remote Home Learning Survey Feedback & FAQs

Thank you as ever for the many positive comments and constructive feedback we received from the recent parent survey. All that we continue to do as a school is a result of the whole Priory team and we appreciate the generosity of your feedback, particularly the overwhelming positive comments we have received in relation to our live lessons. Please find below, answers to many of the questions you posed for us and we are grateful to you for highlighting some of these concerns. As always, if you still have questions then do contact us at [enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk).

### **My child has live lessons, but how do I know what lessons he/she has on what day? Where can I find the timetable?**

All students are following their normal timetable as if they were in school, with the exception of their Learning for Life lesson. This is to allow some screen *down time* during the day. You can find the timetable of your son/daughter using your Synergy portal here [www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/synergy](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/synergy)

### **The live lessons are great, but they only last 25 minutes and the normal lesson timetable is 60 minutes. Why is this?**

Whilst we have adopted a Live Learning @ Priory approach, this does not necessarily mean that live lessons will last a full 60 minutes. The live teaching may be organised into smaller chunks and may be spread across the hour – therefore giving students time away from screen to complete the tasks that have been discussed by the teacher.

### **My child is working for the full 5 hours per day. This is a lot of screen time. How will Priory help to support and alleviate this?**

In the first instance, we have tried to reduce screen time by ensuring that most lessons last approximately 25 minutes. If lessons need to last longer then individual teachers will inform students in advance. Further to this, we have removed the need to attend Learning for Life in the interim period in order to encourage more time away from any device screen. Finally, we're temporarily suspending lessons on Wednesday, 27 January to focus on well-being. We're all living in different and challenging circumstances from what we're used to so it's important that we take a break for our well-being and mental health. On this day, all pupils are invited to opt into a variety of activities in a change from their normal studies.

### **As PE lessons have been suspended along with being in school as a whole, how will Priory support the physical activity of my child?**

In PE lesson time we want pupils to be active!! What this involves is up to the individual pupil. It may be that they want to go for a walk, a run or a bike ride during the lesson. If the weather is rainy, we have provided a number of links in the files tab of their PE class Team. These include links for over 80 activities from cardio workouts and boxing sessions to Pilates and yoga. These can all be done from the comfort of home. There are two requests from staff, firstly please ensure the activity is finished in time to start the next lesson and secondly pupils mustn't forget to let their PE teacher know what they've been doing. So far we've heard how pupils are getting on with their 'Couch to 5k' Challenge, received screenshots from Strava of their runs and even videos of 'Just Dance'!!



**Will teachers be able to accommodate more group work within their lessons?**

Yes. All our staff are dedicated to the Digital Transformation Programme that is running at Priory. Through the use of Microsoft Teams our staff are already experimenting and teaching each other on the use of 'breakout rooms' in Teams where students can continue to interact and have discussions about the learning in the lesson.

**What if my child misses a lesson? How can this be caught up?**

The use of Microsoft Teams allows all staff to record their live lessons or pre-record any lesson. Many of the live lessons are recorded and can therefore be watched back by students in their own time when convenient. Lessons have been uploaded into the shared FILES section within each class channel and so students should be able to access their dated lesson here.

**Not all teachers and students are using cameras. This is making the learning difficult. What is the school's policy on this?**

Whilst we have asked that pupils start their lessons with cameras on to aid registration, turning a camera on is optional. Some pupils may not have cameras on the devices they are using. If they are able to turn a camera on and are comfortable to do so, it can make teaching easier. We have given guidance about appropriate backgrounds. Staff too will have their cameras on whenever possible, but this may not always be the case for an entire lesson.

**I'm worried by child is missing out on the pastoral element of school – for example seeing their friends and well-being checks by staff.**

Even though learning is taking place at home, it is important to be reassured that year group assemblies and welfare checks with pupils are still taking place. Year group assemblies sustain the link between year group peers and their Head of Year. Teachers in lessons regularly check on the welfare of their students in their live lessons.

**My child has been removed from some lessons by other students and this has stopped learning. What are you doing about this?**

Our IT team and teachers have worked exceptionally hard to enable live lessons to be taught so students continue to be taught the sequenced curriculum. They continue to work hard and communicate with teachers to find solutions to some of the minor issues we have experienced. We are pleased to inform you that this has now been disabled by the IT team so further issues should not arise. Teachers will also follow the normal school behaviour policy and sanction students appropriately in these circumstances.

**My child hands their work in to different teachers in different ways. This is becoming confusing. Can this be standardised?**

Here at Priory, we have a dedicated team of Microsoft Teams experts who are working hard to review and standardise this process. The use of any remote platform is new for many staff and pupils alike, but we continue striving to evolve our current practices to ensure the most efficient and effective submission of work. This is something the school is currently addressing and will communicate shortly to parents and pupils.