

Dear Parent/Carer

Many thanks for all the positive feedback we have received from you about the support for students. There will be some changes to the learning from Monday 18th January onwards that we have shared with all students in their assembly yesterday.

Live Lessons

The structure of the day is the same as the structure that they would expect in school:

8.40am	Registration and tutor reading (LIVE)
9.05 - lunchtime	Taught Lessons (LIVE)
Afternoon	Independent activities & online platforms (Hegarty etc). KS4 some live lessons
2.40pm	Tutor time / assembly (LIVE)

Engagement in all LIVE lessons as well as their independent study tasks (Hegarty, Bedrock, Tassomai) are monitored and tracked - hopefully resulting in lots of positive MERITS and postcards home. Non engagement will result in contact with home.

- All students will have a new timetable emailed to them which will tell them the class code e.g. Maths 7x3 for their live lessons.
- The full timetable with hyperlinks to the lessons are in the website on our Covid page. They go into their class code.
- As far as possible there are 2 members of staff in each lesson. Senior leaders will pop into lessons during the day.
- Lessons are 45 minutes long to allow a short break before the next lesson
- Students will be told when to have cameras and mics on / off
- For safeguarding reasons all lessons are recorded.

Top Tips for Parents

- Make sure children are appropriately dressed, and in a suitable location (bedrooms are not suitable locations as far as possible)
- Blur / change the background (may need to update in settings to do this)
- Turn off their phones or electronics unless using them to access the lesson.
- If they are poorly - phone absence line as normal (01752 284221) - as we will ring for any absence from lessons.
- Most of the work is still done in exercise books, so they mainly need a device to watch the lessons.

Access to devices

Please contact the tutor or learning manager if you need a device for your child to work on.

Use of Electronic Devices

Whilst we are in the virtual classroom and student time on their devices has increased, can I please take this opportunity to remind all parents of the importance of e-safety and of our College expectations on the acceptable use of technology. Please do ensure that you have the necessary safety controls set up at home to support the safe use of the internet and also be vigilant on your child's use of their devices. Our Online Safety Policy is available on the College website and this needs to be adhered to whilst in the virtual classroom. If you need advice on setting up safety controls on devices please contact Mr Kelly at the college (skelly@sdcc.net). I would also advise that you build into their day some downtime from electronic devices to support their emotional wellbeing - stretch the legs, get some fresh air locally, exercise - all good for the mind.

Mobile phones during Live Lessons

We respectfully ask that mobile phones are switched off during live lessons unless they are being used to access GoogleMeet. Where students must use their mobile phones to access the lessons these must be used in a manner that adheres to the College Policy.

During Remote Learning live lessons, electronic devices must not be used to:

- Record, take or share images, video and audio on any electronic device;
- Store and/or access inappropriate/undesirable imagery or material, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying of any description;
- Record, take or share any images, video and audio of other students or staff at the College.

Unfortunately, students will lose access to Remote Learning if electronic devices are used inappropriately and parents/carers will be contacted.

Support with remote learning - contact our helpdesk

Whilst we have made every effort to ensure that all students are familiar with how to navigate and use google classrooms and other learning platforms, we are available to help. Students and families can ask for help by contacting tutors or by submitting a [help desk google form](#) which can be found on the COVID section of our College website which will activate a call back or email to you.

We know home education is challenging but hopefully having the teacher virtually in your house too should help!

Remember we are at the end of the phone, so please call if you need us.

Yours faithfully,



Anita Frier
Principal