

11.01.2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and understanding over the last few days after what has been a huge period of change for us all. We are also responding to the additional requirements announced by the Secretary for Education Gavin Williamson in the House of Commons on 7<sup>th</sup> January. So far students have been exemplary in their approach to remote learning and we have been impressed by the positive and hardworking attitude that they continue to display.

### Live Lessons and Remote Learning

As you will appreciate the situation at the moment is very difficult and there have been several changes that we have all had to adapt to. In light of the lockdown being extended, and having consulted with parents and the GCE Trust, we have had to review our plans for remote learning. The majority of schools are using asynchronous (pre-recorded) lessons as part of their remote learning offer with online resources like the Oak Academy, which was praised by the Secretary of State for Education in his address earlier this week. We will also be offering more live lessons to all year groups (details are below). This blended approach allows for the complex demands of home learning for all. It also gives staff additional opportunities to prepare the highest quality lessons and resources to support the students as well as offer bespoke feedback during the course of the week. These asynchronous lessons must be accessed “as live” by students on Satchel, **following their normal timetable for the day**. There will be interactive elements to the lessons, for example online quizzes, so that all teachers can review the progress students are making and provide feedback to support their learning in future sessions. During these sessions teachers will be available on the chat bar in Satchel to answer any questions and respond to queries. There will be a lesson reminder sent via Teams to formally invite students to these pre-recorded lessons. ***If you have any issues with technical equipment then parents need to liaise with Dr P Walker at [pwalker@copleston.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:pwalker@copleston.suffolk.sch.uk)***

We are aiming to expand our **live lesson** offer beyond exam groups and teachers will be offering live lessons for all students from **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January** in the following manner:

Year Groups	Live lessons on Teams
7	1 per week for core subjects (English, Maths, Science); 1 per fortnight for all other subjects
8	1 per week for core subjects (English, Maths, Science); 1 per fortnight for all other subjects
9 and 10	3 per fortnight core subjects (English, Maths, Science); 1 per fortnight all other subjects
12	As directed by teacher

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

The exam groups-Years 11 and 13- will continue to receive live lessons on Teams.

The Teams lesson invite will come each week from the class teacher so we require students to monitor their school email on a daily basis to ascertain when their live lessons will be. All Teams live recorded lessons will remain on Teams for 20 days for safeguarding purposes and will then be removed. However, teachers will upload all lessons and materials on to Satchel for future reference.

Teachers and Leaders of Learning will be closely monitoring students' engagement with all online learning (both pre-recorded and live) and when students access work on Satchel. There will be regular contact via this remote learning package to check in with all students. As ever, we expect full participation in every aspect of remote learning.

## **The School Day**

In response to the additional changes from Secretary for Education Gavin Williamson in the House of Commons on 7<sup>th</sup> January, we are also making a change to the current structure of the school day. It was announced yesterday by the government that:

*The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and will include both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently. The amount of remote education provided should be, as a minimum:*

- *Key Stage 1: 3 hours a day on average across the cohort, with less for younger children*
- *Key Stage 2: 4 hours a day*
- *Key Stages 3 and 4: 5 hours a day*

In order to satisfy this legal requirement we will therefore be implementing the following school day timings from **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January**:

<b>Form Time/Assembly:</b>	8.30 - 8.40 (For years 7-11, Monday will be form time; Wednesdays and Fridays will be assemblies.)
<b>Change-over Time</b>	8.40 - 8.45
<b>Period 1:</b>	8.45 - 9.45
<b>Change-over Time</b>	9.45 - 9.50
<b>Period 2:</b>	9.50 - 10.50
<b>Break</b>	10.50- 11.10
<b>Period 3:</b>	11.10 - 12.10
<b>Lunch</b>	12.10- 13:00
<b>Period 4:</b>	13.00 - 14.00 (school finishes at 14.00 on Wednesdays)
<b>Change-over Time</b>	14.00 – 14.05
<b>Period 5:</b>	14.05 - 15.05

There will be WOW activities offered on Satchel to choose from for the optional Wednesday afternoon session. Home learning will continue to be set by teachers which will consist of preparation and review work.

We believe that a return to this structure and blended learning will provide benefits for all and will make the transition on the return to face to face schooling that much easier in the future.

We valued your feedback on this issue and appreciate your ongoing support in what is a challenging time for us all. Please click to hear more from myself in a personal address: <https://youtu.be/NchktOxSArQ>

With my very best wishes

Mr AB Green

Principal