

Working together to keep our school community safe



Remote Learning Update – 13th January 2021

Head Teacher Introduction

I would like to say a huge ‘well done’ to all of our staff, pupils and parents for such a positive and productive start to remote learning. It is obviously a new way of working and there will be challenges, ‘hiccups’ and difficulties along the way.

Pupils, parents and staff have reported that the live lessons and ‘check-ins’ have already provided a useful way to re-connect and support progress. I would ask that you please read the expectations of pupil conduct in live lessons below and discuss these expectations with your child.

I hope this short summary is useful and that your child enjoys the rest of their remote learning this week. I look forward to sharing a brief assembly on Monday morning reporting back on the first week.

Mr. S. Clark

Head Teacher

Conduct During Live Lessons/Check Ins

The use of online platforms for lessons is new both to teachers and to pupils and everyone therefore may need time to ‘find their feet’. However, I must ask for your support in emphasising a few points to your child in order to ensure they do not unintentionally conduct themselves in a way which is disruptive to the lesson or the success of the live learning experience going forward.

Please emphasise, pupils must:

- Only comment on the chat if it is relevant to the learning and under teacher direction – if pupils are advised not to comment on the chat they should adhere to this.
- Not take any images or recording of a live session without the expressed permission of the teacher. This is a crucial matter of trust and any breach in this will result in access to live lessons being removed.
- Mute their mic if directed by the teacher – and ensure any audible contributions to the lesson are at the instruction of the teacher.

Essentially, pupils need to approach a live lesson or ‘check in’ as a formal learning environment and have the same approach to conduct as they would in class. If the teacher feels standards of conduct have not met these expectations, then parents may receive a

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text message alerting you to this as an early indication that it would be beneficial to reiterate the points above. If there is further concern, a member of school staff would be in touch directly.

The vast majority of pupils have conducted themselves in an exceptional manner, and have contributed very positively.

I am sure the small number of instances of concern are simply due to pupils establishing how to interact in this new environment – that is part of the learning process.

Below is a reminder of the East Renfrewshire Council user agreement for participating in live lessons:

EAST RENFREWSHIRE LIVE LESSON USER AGREEMENT

When joining a live lesson, the following guidance must be followed:

- Be aware of your surroundings and background
- If using video, check lighting and the quality of sound from your microphone
- Be aware of and limit any noise in their environment – e.g. pets, domestic appliances, etc
- If you have one available, you should use headphones with a mic rather than the microphone built-in to your device
- Check what is visible on screen and ‘blur’ your background (join the Meeting and click three dots for settings at the top of the screen and select 'Background effects')
- If using a laptop, consider raising it so that you are looking directly into the screen
- Do not log on to live lessons from your bedroom
- Dress appropriately at all times
- Consider who else might be able to hear what you are saying and see you on screen
- Do not record or take photographs during the live lesson
- Maintain standards of behaviour

Avoiding and Responding to Clashes

Feedback from parents and pupils is that live lessons and check-ins are a highly valued aspect of our remote learning offer. We have an extensive schedule of live learning opportunities but we are aware that to ensure wide coverage there may be some clashes on occasion. In order to reduce the impact of this we are:

- ✓ Scheduling lessons to avoid clashes as much as possible
- ✓ Asking pupils to prioritise live lessons over ‘check-ins’
- ✓ Increasingly we are recording lessons where possible to allow those not present to watch in their own time. Pupils should therefore be aware that the teacher may record the lesson for use by other pupils.
- ✓ Ensuring all materials and activities from lessons are posted in the class/team.

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Helping Organise the Day/Week

We will be emailing all parents a template which can be used by their child to help organise their day/week. This will provide a weekly timetable along with a planner for work across the week for each subject. This will be distributed shortly. In the meantime, please note that we are following the traditional period timings for the school day (rather than operating the staggered break/lunch). Our period timings are below for your information:

Period 1 08.45 – 09.35

Period 2 09.35 – 10.25

Interval 10.25 – 10.40

Period 3 10.40 – 11.30

Period 4 11.30 – 12.18

Lunch 12.20 – 13.05

Period 5 13.05 – 13.55

Period 6 13.55 – 14.45*

Period 7 14.45 – 15.35

* Please note the pupil day on Wednesday and Friday finishes at 2.45 pm.

Accessing Materials

If any pupils require access to basic stationery such as pencils/pens/paper/jotters then please contact the school office and we can arrange to leave some materials for you at the drop off/pick up table at the front door.

Online Learning Codes / Accessing Help

We will remove the access codes to our classroom/teams on Friday and so please access this for any classes your child does not currently have access codes for. Please remember if you or your child would like to request any assistance with access issues, please use the Microsoft Form at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKdaQYbhSiS5HnflJmL6H-mFUM0RBSFhSMTZORlhFSDY1SktGNDZHWjNTVC4u>

HPV Vaccinations

The HPV vaccinations which were organised for 4th February have been postponed. Pupils affected will already have their consent forms. Please return these to the school office by post if possible. This will assist with timely re-scheduling when this is possible.