

## 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

## Dear #teamchsg

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have had an enjoyable break and are ready to return this week with the same enthusiasm you have shown since September.

I wrote to your Parents/Carers on New Year's Eve outlining the plans for this coming week in detail and gave them a brief outline of the following 2 weeks. I am sure you have discussed these already but I also wanted to write to you too, to reassure you of everything we are doing to keep your education going throughout this challenging period. We are being advised that the number of Covid-19 cases and the rate by which the virus is transmitting has increased, particularly following the news of this second strain. Therefore the Government has decided that Secondary Schools should have a phased return to their education in the Spring Term.

What this means for you is outlined in the plan below. There are 2 documents attached to this email. The first is a Student Guide on how to access MS Teams should you have forgotten. The second document is how we expect you to prepare for and learn during each session. I hope you will find both of these useful as you go through this week. Please take the time to read this plan carefully so you know what you should be doing. Our plan for Year 10 is as follows:

| Year | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January (p3<br>onwards) | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January    | Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January –<br>Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January  |
|------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 10   | No tutor time                                  | No tutor time                      | No tutor time  |
|      | Lessons set on Show My<br>Homework             | Lessons set on Show My<br>Homework | Lessons set on Show My<br>Homework                                     |
|      | No online lessons                              | No online lessons                  | Some online lessons (you will<br>see these on your e-mail<br>calendar) |

You are expected to carry on as normal following your Week 1 timetable and complete all the work that is expected of you – from Monday you are no longer on holiday! We will be following the lack of completed work up and after-school detentions will be set if the work is not completed. As before, if you do not understand something you can and should contact your teacher via their e-mail address and please remember an attempt is better than nothing at all. **Online lessons will be completed using MS Teams and you are expected to attend every online lesson that is organised for you – this is what we practised for!** We will be contacting your parents/carers when you do not attend a lesson to find out why you have missed the session. If you are sick you must ask your parent/carer to contact the school as they would normally do. Over the Christmas break I have put plans together to add new PCs into classrooms that need them during the first week. We want to make sure your experience is not hampered by our IT equipment and your education does not suffer because of this phased return.



Girls' Learning Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with the company number 07627961. Registered Office: Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey SM3 8AB If you do not have access to IT equipment (laptop, WIFI, smartphone etc) and this means you cannot join <u>any</u> MS Teams sessions **please let your Head of Year know straight away**. We are allowed to invite some students into school for the entire day, particularly those who have difficulties with IT access so they can use our equipment to access their online lessons. We have already made contact with all those students that we know about however there may be a small number who we do not know about, if this is you please let us know immediately.

Finally, I know that none of this is ideal but keeping you safe and minimising risk is extremely important. But so is your education. I also know that you will be worried and concerned about what the next few weeks are going to bring for you and your lessons particularly as there have been so many last-minute changes to everything. Together we will make this work, we will do all we can to support your education but you must also do the same. Together we have navigated many challenges in 2020 and kept moving forward and I am confident that all the members of #teamchsg will be up to the challenges that this year brings too.

Wishing you all the best for 2021

Mr Devenney Headteacher



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