



7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR REMOTE EDUCATION - SPRING TERM 1 LOCKDOWN**

Happy New Year once again. I'd like to wish everyone the very best for 2021.

Since I last wrote to you on Jan 1st, we have entered another national lockdown so I am now writing to you to explain our arrangements for remote education for your son(s).

I would like to thank parents for returning consent forms for Covid testing to the school. The school is open to vulnerable pupils and to children of key workers during the lockdown. If either of these categories applies to your son, then please contact the school by 8am at the start of each week (to facilitate planning) with his name and reason for on-site provision. Pupils are to wear their school uniform and to come equipped for learning.

Children and staff on site during lockdown will be tested weekly subject to consent. I kindly ask parents not to send their son(s) to school if any member of your household is either showing symptoms or is being tested for Covid 19. Please keep them at home and arrange a Covid test and keep the school informed.

The mass testing of pupils I referred to in my previous letter is now on hold as pupils are working remotely.

**The arrangements for remote education are as follows:**

Years 11 and 13 started remote learning on Jan 5th and Years 7-10 and 12 will start likewise on Mon, Jan 11th at 8.30am.

All pupils in Years 7-13 will follow their usual timetable using google classroom. They are expected to register each morning with their Form tutor at 8.30am followed by Form time until 9am and will then attend live lessons Periods 1-6 each day. The PE department will provide live timetabled PE lessons to help keep pupils fit and focussed.

The usual homework timetable will be followed and details of homework set will be on Show My Homework (SMHW). Classwork and homework tasks will be completed and submitted on google classroom to facilitate teacher feedback. Quizzes will be set mostly on SMHW but some may also be set on Google classroom. A separate letter will be sent home shortly with your son's log-in details etc for google classroom. Details of IT support for pupils during the lockdown are in a separate letter attached.

Pupils in Years 7-11 will have a virtual assembly at 8.30am on Mon Jan 11th that will cover the above and also behaviour protocols for remote working. Pupils will also be provided with information on using google classroom.

It should be noted that the same high expectations of behaviour will be retained during lockdown and pupils are expected to adhere to our usual code of conduct. We will treat any misuse of technology as a serious breach of our behaviour policy and such breaches could lead to a Fixed Term Exclusion. Please make this clear to your son(s).

As I write, the DFE have indicated that the 2021 GCSE and A-Level exams will be replaced with centre assessed grades (CAG's). Attendance and engagement with remote learning will be taken into account when considering each pupil's 2021 CAG's. Please get in touch with Ms Garrib (HOY 11) or with Ms Pabila (AHT Sixth Form) if you have concerns about your son's engagement with remote learning.

Your son will need access to a laptop (using a phone is not practical) and to internet connectivity to participate fully in remote learning. If he needs either or both of these then please contact the school via email ([enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk)) and leave your son's name, Form group and details of his digital needs. We will get back to you as soon as we can as these resources are currently being distributed to pupils who need them.

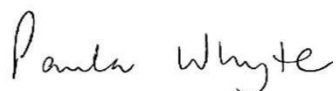
Daily phone calls home will be made to follow up on non-attendance to Form time at 8.30am, to follow up on any non-attendance at live lessons and a general pupil welfare call will be made weekly. I hope you will find these useful. Food vouchers or hampers will be provided for pupils entitled to free school meals. Further details to follow.

Parents of pupils in Year 12 should note the event below:

Event	Date
Year 12 Open Evening for parents and pupils--this will be organised remotely. Details to follow to Yr 12 parents.	Thursday 14th January 2021 – 5-7pm

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times and every good wish for 2021. I hope that your son(s) will take part fully in our remote education arrangements and find the experience beneficial. Please feel free to contact your son's Head of Year if needed. I will continue to update you as and when the need arises.

Yours sincerely.



Paula Whyte  
Headteacher