



Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations

Our reference: CTALET28/LH

5th January 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

Firstly, happy New Year to all of our families and with the prospects of a robust vaccination programme ready to roll out, there is definitely some light at the end of the tunnel and we can now begin to feel more optimistic about the not too distant future. However, we still have some challenging times ahead of us both as a school and as a community. We will get through this together, but we must continue to protect each other.

Exams and assessments

We await details of the assessment expectations for GCSEs and A Levels following the Prime Minister's announcement that it is "not possible or fair for all exams to go ahead this summer as normal". The use of the phrases "all exams" and "normal" leaves us with many questions as to what this will look like, but we will update you as soon as we have some clarity on this matter. It will be essential that years 10, 11, 12 and 13 engage in their remote learning and all assessments set online. We will prioritise supporting any challenges with remote learning for these exam year groups.

What is now certain is that the January vocational exams will not continue as planned; an email has already been sent about this.

Students who are due to sit mock exams this month, these will take place when we do return to school.

Remote Learning arrangements

Hopefully, students have managed to get onto their remote learning lessons today and engaged with the work set. Tomorrow students will be given set work to complete online whilst staff prepare for the remainder of the term. Attached to this letter is a detailed remote learning timetable that will start on Thursday 7th January and run through to February half term. This Thursday and Friday will be Week 1. Students will also receive details of the way we will be delivering remote learning through their email and Google classroom. In summary, students will receive at least one "live" lesson a day and the time for this is a set time for each year group in case families with multiple children are sharing a device. The other lessons will be pre-recorded and will vary from a whole pre-recorded lesson to a pre-recorded introduction or demonstration. Where possible, staff will also be available on the Google classroom at the scheduled time to talk through any issues/questions. If this is not possible, then questions will be responded to at the earliest opportunity. As we have created a new timetable, students may not always have their regular class teacher for a lesson but will all be assigned to a class.

Timings of the lessons will be as follows:

9am	- Year 7 Live lesson/ Year 12 & 13 am session
10am	- Year 8 Live lesson
11:30am	- Year 9 Live lesson
12:30pm	- Year 10 Live lesson/ Year 12 & 13 pm session
2pm	- Year 11 Live lesson

Students will be able to access their lessons via their normal Google Classroom for each subject, or through Show My Homework.

- Any material required for lessons (including any pre-recorded presentations, reading material, links to videos etc.) will be uploaded onto the appropriate Google Classroom before the start of each day at 9am. This will allow students to access the material at any point before or after suggested start time.
- “Live” lessons will be recorded and placed on the Google Classroom as soon as possible after the lesson in case students are unable to access the lesson at the scheduled time.
- Students will be instructed as to how to submit work - this might be through the completion of online assignments on Google Classroom or by photographing handwritten work and uploading it.
- Students may be removed from a lesson if they do not follow the code of conduct - you will be informed of any inappropriate behaviour. (Please note that lessons will be being recorded and written responses in Chats/Classroom Talks are closely monitored and a record is kept).
- Please note that during the period of Remote Learning, there will not be any additional home study set, although students may be guided to extension activities as appropriate.
- It is also recommended that students take exercise regularly (for both physical and mental well-being), the PE Department will be guiding students to particular exercise opportunities

Expectations for students working from home

- Must complete the full day of lessons and activities set.
- Must submit classwork as instructed.
- Must follow the online Code of Conduct.

Additional Information

- We are running provision on site for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children and for some external exams.
- When staff are unavailable to work and we cannot cover a live lesson, the work for the lesson will still be posted for students to complete but there will be no teacher present during the lesson time.
- We will be reviewing our provision daily in light of any changes that are occurring in the school and national guidance. We will keep you informed of any changes.

We will continue to keep you updated with any new information or guidance as this comes through. Should anyone need any additional support for their child whilst they are learning at home then please do feel free to contact their relevant Year Leader.

Take care and stay safe,

CHRIS TAYLOR
Head of School

SARAH MCKARRY
Head of College