



15 May 2020

**To all parents of Year 8 pupils – online lessons start Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.**

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and in good spirits in these difficult times. You will have recently heard the Prime Minister's announcement about the ambition to open schools in a gradual way in the coming weeks. **At this point, there is no confirmed date from the Government regarding when pupils in Year 8 will return to school.** This letter outlines our approach to providing online lessons and work packs to use at home for the foreseeable future. I will write to you again once a return to school date is known.

The second work pack of learning materials to use at home should have reached you by courier delivery a couple of weeks ago. All these materials are also available on the school website via the *Information – Home Learning Resources* area. They are also all stored under 'Files' in *Microsoft Teams*.

**From Monday 18 May we will be launching online lessons for Year 8.** On the next page of this letter is the timetable showing what subjects and at what times these lessons will take place this week and every week for the foreseeable future. In order to access these online lessons you will have received a text message containing your child's email address and password details. Guidance for accessing *Microsoft Teams* can also be found on the school website in the *Home Learning Resources* area.

We plan to send a further work pack home shortly after half term. This pack and the one you already have will allow for independent study but will also be used as a resource for the online lessons.

We would like every child to engage in our online teaching programme. We do recognise that online learning is no substitute for being in school and is not accessible to all. Please speak to our welfare team in their weekly phone call if this is proving problematic. We will look to support you in overcoming this.

The BBC is also supporting home learning with a selection of videos, quizzes, podcasts and articles. These will appear on **BBC Bitesize Daily** via the **BBC iPlayer**. The initiative will include fourteen weeks of core subject learning for all age groups. You can also access the **Oak National Academy** lessons which are updated each week. Star has been part of the national team creating this amazing resource of weekly lessons. You can find these at <https://www.thenational.academy/>.

In addition to your child's learning, it is important to stay active and healthy. We would encourage you to ensure your child stays active and takes regular exercise. Please encourage them to take part in the daily PE lesson provided by Joe Wickes on YouTube at 9am every morning and to take a walk outside once each day.

As a school we understand that during this difficult time many families will struggle financially and may no longer have access to the internet. During our weekly welfare calls please let us know where we can help. Thank you for your patience and support in these challenging times. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

**Kieran Larkin**

Interim Executive Principal





This is the weekly Year 8 online lessons programme starting from Monday 18 May 2020.

	Lesson 1 9.00-9.30	Break	Lesson 2 9.45-10.30	Break	Lesson 3 10.45-11.30	Lesson 4 11.30-12.15	Lunch	Lesson 5 1.15-2.00	Break	Lesson 6 2.15-3.00	Outdoor Activity
<b>Monday</b>	PE Joe Wicks YouTube	15 mins		15 mins	Spanish ARI	IT MKI	60 mins		15 mins		Walk
<b>Tuesday</b>	PE Joe Wicks YouTube	15 mins		15 mins	French EHA	Maths BSH	60 mins		15 mins		Walk
<b>Wednesday</b>	PE Joe Wicks YouTube	15 mins	English DPE	15 mins	Drama EMC  Music (8aPa3 TWA)	Science JHE	60 mins	RS NSE	15 mins		Walk
<b>Thursday</b>	PE Joe Wicks YouTube	15 mins	English SFO	15 mins	History SAS	Geography SBA	60 mins		15 mins		Walk
<b>Friday</b>	PE Joe Wicks YouTube	15 mins	Maths BSH	15 mins			60 mins		15 mins		Walk

