



22nd January 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

I write to you at the end of our third week of online learning. I would like to thank the students and staff for their hard work and commitment which we are currently seeing in lessons.

Attendance in lessons

To help us monitor student attendance in lessons, please can you continue to inform the school if your child is ill or has medical appointments and will be unable to attend lessons. We will continue to inform you if your child is missing from their lesson.

Truancy Calls are being made if a child fails to participate in their first remote lesson of the day. We acknowledge that it is unhelpful to receive a call if you believe that your child is participating in their remote learning. To avoid errors in this process, please ensure that your child is prompt to their online lessons, in time for the register to be taken.

Government Consultation on exams

Last Friday there was a joint consultation launched by the Department for Education and Ofqual on the arrangements for [GCSE](#), [A level](#) and [BTEC](#) qualifications this summer. The consultation is open to all stakeholders, staff, students and parents alike and is open until Friday 29th January.

The best advice we can offer students is to continue to work really hard so that they are best prepared for whatever arrangements are ultimately put in place.

Remote Learning updates

To support families who are at home for lunchtime, we are taking the decision to move Tutor time to begin at 12:30pm from Monday 25th January.

Exercise books are available in the Front Office should they be required.

Safeguarding pupils online

As students are spending more time online, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of how you can ensure your children are safe. Please have a look at the following sites which give advice and guidance.

- Gov.uk guidance on [staying safe online](#) which includes information on security and privacy settings.
- [Thinkuknow](#) provides advice from the National Crime Agency (NCA) on staying safe online.
- [Parent info](#) is a collaboration between Parentzone and the NCA providing support and guidance for parents from leading experts and organisations.
- [Childnet](#) offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support.

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- [Internet matters](#) provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.
- [Net-aware](#) has support for parents and carers from the NSPCC, including a guide to social networks, apps and games.
- [Let's Talk About It](#) has advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation.
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has tips, advice, guides and other resources to help keep children safe online, including parental controls offered by home internet providers and safety tools on social networks and other online services.

I wish to thank you all for kind messages of gratitude and support this term,

Yours faithfully



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