



much more than just a school



8 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to start by wishing you a healthy and happy new year. Since we last wrote to you many changes have once again happened. Most notably, the announcement that schools will only be open for children of key workers and vulnerable students until February half-term and also the cancellation of Year 11 exams. For now, we have no further information on this and will continue to communicate with you regularly as we receive updates. Year 11 attendance to live on-line lessons continues to be most important to ensure we will have good evidence of students' learning.

This letter contains important information, advice and support. Please take time to read it carefully.

Remote learning

We hope your child is getting on well with their remote learning. Most students have been very good at engaging with Teams and emails and sending in their work. This week live on-line lessons have run for all Year 11 classes very successfully and live lessons have been trialled with many other classes across Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

From Monday, 11 January live lessons will also run every lesson for Year 10. Years 7, 8 and 9 will have at least one live lesson each week for their subjects and tutor time. You will be able to see your child's attendance to live lessons on the INSIGHT app. Teachers will mark a child present for these lessons if they attended live in Teams, at Key Worker School or through emails during the lesson.

Your child should be following their school timetable. You can see this on the INSIGHT app. If you are one of the few who have not downloaded this yet, there is a link later in this letter.

Years 7, 8 and 9

Your child's teachers will run at least one live lesson for their subject every week via Teams. Alongside this, they will be on-line to support their classes each lesson on their timetable and give feedback. The work for the week is set on INSIGHT so that both you and your child can see the plans and access on our school website. Every lesson your child's teacher will remind them of the work for the lesson through email and Teams.

Remember, your child needs to use their school log-on to access their remote learning. They can do this through the website or simply by entering Office 365 <https://www.office.com/> in the web browser and using their school log-on details.



Success for All through Attainment, Resilience and Autonomy

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Years 10 and 11

Year 11 lessons are already live and from Monday 11 January, they will be live for all Year 10 and 11 lessons.

These lessons are accessed via Teams and your child should have already downloaded the Teams app. If they haven't, everything is accessible via Office 365 <https://www.office.com/> or the app store.

Tutor time and Personal development

Tutors will check in with your child twice every week. On a Monday, this will be during PM tutor time via Teams messaging. Every Thursday, they will run a live Personal Development lesson. Tutors are also available on email if your child has any worries and needs any support.

Laptops and technology

We have loaned over 100 laptops to eligible families. Mr Bryce has sent a further survey this week to check if any other families need support with this. The link to the survey is: <https://bit.ly/39cmdVg>

Lessons are planned so that children can use their exercise books alongside remote resources or live lessons. This can be done on a laptop, phone or iPad/tablet.

On-line learning can also be accessed through PlayStation and Xbox. This link leads to guidance about how to do this:

<https://www.pcs.hants.sch.uk/assets/letters/2021-01/accessing-online-learning.pdf>

Plugging in a key board to a Playstation or Xbox will allow students to chat to their teachers on Teams, access on-line learning and participate in lessons. We have some keyboards we can loan to families who need them for these purposes. If you require IT support or wish to request a keyboard, please email itservices@pcs.hants.sch.uk

Free School meals

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and not attending our Key Worker School, you will continue to be sent weekly e-vouchers for these. Please email itservices@pcs.hants.sch.uk if you have any problems with these.

Key Worker School and Testing

This week we have tested all staff for Covid in line with government policy. Testing for children attending school as part of Key Worker provision will take place next week. So far, the process has run very smoothly. We have included a photograph of the testing in action this week.





INSIGHT app

Every parent and child can download the app. It allows you to see your child's timetable, attendance and electronic communications. If you haven't downloaded it please do. Email itservices@pcs.hants.sch.uk if you need help.

Need help?	
Forgotten your school log on?	Email itservices@pcs.hants.sch.uk
Forgotten your timetable?	It's all in Office 365. Use your school log-on and go to https://www.office.com/ Parents can also access it on INSIGHT.
Can't remember how to go to the shared area	It's all in Office 365. Use your school log-on and go to https://www.office.com/
Unsure how to access Teams?	https://teams.microsoft.com There is additional guidance on our website if you need it.
Require additional learning and resources?	https://www.thenational.academy/ https://www.gcsepod.com/

Thank you for helping your children to work hard from home. Please continue to encourage them with this. Look out for our newsletter next week with further updates.

Yours faithfully

Christopher Anders
Headteacher

Ella Capaldi
Head of School