



**BIDDULPH
HIGH
SCHOOL**

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Chief Executive Officer: **Mark Kent**

22nd January 2021

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PERSON WITH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Re: Changes to Remote Learning

Thank you to all the parents/carers and students who responded to our recent questionnaire regarding remote online learning. We were overwhelmed with the positive comments and we welcomed the constructive feedback given and as a result we intend to make some improvements to our provision.

Concerns around the amount of time students and staff are spending on screens was a recurring theme in your feedback and we will, therefore, be introducing the following:

- We have already reduced the length of the “live” part of lessons to 45 minutes and we hope this is proving beneficial to students. Students are still expected to learn for the full hour and work will be set by staff for them to complete independently.
- **Friday 29th January 2021 all day** will be “Lean Screen Friday”:
 - Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be asked to log in for their Form Time as normal so that we can take an attendance register. Students in the Sixth Form do not need to register.
 - For periods 1, 2 and 3 students should **follow their normal timetable** but there will be no live or recorded lessons. Instead, staff will be setting an assignment task for students and *where possible* this will avoid them needing to use a screen to complete it. Students may be asked to photograph their work for submission, or have it ready to discuss in the following lesson.
 - Periods 4 and 5 will be an enrichment afternoon where students should partake in one or more of the following activities:
 1. Physical exercise (see the PE department Padlet <https://padlet.com/swift7/38z1f12daqhwhyfc> for ideas)
 2. The House baking competition
 3. Wellbeing activity e.g. yoga
 4. Hobby of their choice.
 - **Students who are currently attending school in our Critical Worker group will attend school in the morning only.** Their provision will finish at the end of Period 3 at 12.35pm and there will be catering provision at break time but not at lunchtime. They will then be able to take part in the enrichment afternoon.
- **Thursday 4th February Periods 4 & 5** will be an e-Safety enrichment afternoon:
 - The internet and online technology provides new opportunities for young people’s learning and growth, but it can also expose them to new types of risks. As a school we recognise that students are currently spending more time online and, therefore, students will complete activities around e-Safety and **will not follow their normal timetable on this afternoon.** They will access these enrichment activities from their Form Team.



- For students in BH6, the e-Safety information will be available for them to access via their Form Team and it remains important that they have good awareness of the Internet and online safety; taking time to recap e-safety is time well spent. However, many students also tell us that additional time within the day to complete independent study is also valuable, and as such, Period 4 and Period 5 can be used as 'catch up' time.
- **Students who are currently attending school in our Critical Worker group will attend school in the morning only.** Their provision will finish at the end of Period 3 at 12.35pm and there will be catering provision at break time but not at lunchtime. They will then be able to take part in the enrichment afternoon.

Finally, you asked us for feedback around your child's engagement with remote online learning. We will, therefore, be sending you an additional gradesheet for Years 10 and 11 that will provide a score for attendance, behaviour and meeting work expectations. This will be published on My Child at School (MCAS) during week commencing 8th February. Year 13 will receive an interim gradesheet that will provide a score for attendance, behaviour and meeting work expectations and then a formal gradesheet by the end of term. Years 9 and 12 are already calendared to receive a gradesheet this term and their attitude to learning score will take into account their engagement with remote online learning.

We would like to thank you for your support with our remote online learning provision and to take a moment to acknowledge the effort of our students and how they have seamlessly adapted to this way of working.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E C Robinson
Headteacher

