

Friday, 4 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 8 moving to home learning on Monday 7 December for a week

The very good news that there is now a working vaccine for the coronavirus, which will soon start to be administered, is one we can all celebrate. At last, there seems to be a light at the end of what has been a dark tunnel for everyone.

In the meantime, however, we still have to deal with the very many issues that the virus is causing, including the ongoing impact on the running of our school. In particular, as you know, the safety of students, their families and our staff remains our number one priority. Every decision that I make is guided by this.

I am writing therefore, to let you know that Year 8 will need to be taught from home in the period 7-11 December. They will then return to the school on Monday, 14 December. We have decided to take this decision today because of the overall number of cases of coronavirus across the different year groups in the school, resulting in unavoidably high levels of staff absence - through teachers and other staff needing to self-isolate, as required under government rules. With the numbers of staff that will be able to come into the school next week, I would be unable to ensure the safety of all year groups on site, or to provide high quality teaching for the whole school. This means therefore, that I am introducing measures to both maintain safety and to ensure students get the teaching and learning that they need, including asking Year 8 to undertake remote learning for a week.



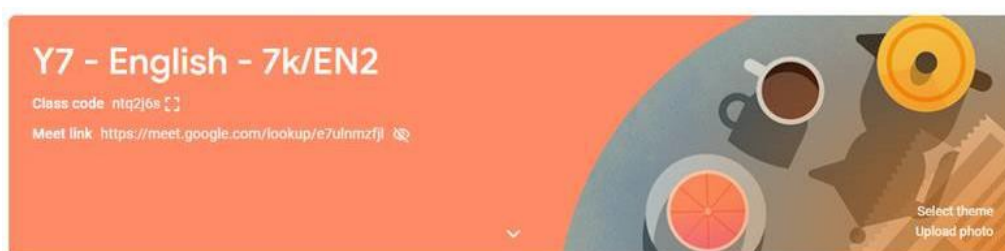
Online Learning During this Period

All Year 8 students have access to Google Classroom.

You can read more about our use of Google Classroom [here](#).

Students should continue to follow their timetable during this time and will use Google Classroom to access their learning. They need to use the following steps to continue their learning during this time:

1. Students should log onto Google Classroom for their specific subject at their lesson time.
2. Students should click on the link for Google Meets. Please see below for an example of this.



3. Students should wait for the teacher to invite them to join and listen to any instructions given. Teachers will deliver a 15 to 20-minute live introduction to the lesson to ensure that students are confident in their understanding.
4. Students should complete the work set on Google Classroom either in their books or directly on Google Classroom as instructed.
5. If when a student logs onto Google Classroom they do not see a Google Meets link, this means there is no tutor available for that lesson. The work for the lesson can be accessed via the Google Classroom resources – in the same way homework is undertaken.

I am very sorry for the lack of notice but as you will appreciate the situation is very fast moving. If your child cannot log into Google Classroom, please contact the school office.



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