

30 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I thought it was important to contact you today with regard to yesterday's announcements from the government and how we plan to educate your child for their first two weeks of term.

I hope you and your family were able to enjoy the Christmas and New year period.

The government announced yesterday that it intended to extend the phased return to face to face education for secondary age pupils. The full guidance can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>

Monday 4 January remains a staff training day so this term begins for all students on Tuesday 5 January.

### Year 11

Year 11s will return to school on Monday 11 January and mock exams will now run from Tuesday 12 January to Thursday 21 January. An updated exam timetable will be available for you on the "For Pupils and Parents" section of the website shortly and you will see that the order of exams will be very similar to your original timetable.

From Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 January you will have some remote teaching via Microsoft Teams. This aims to ensure you have some teacher contact in all your subjects but still gives you some time during the school day for further revision. Further information to follow.

In addition to this your child will be required to attend my assembly on Tuesday 5 January at 8.50 am. This will be via zoom and details of how to attend virtually will be sent to you on Monday 4 January. Every child needs to attend.

## **Years 7 to 10**

All lessons will be delivered through Microsoft Teams between Tuesday 5 January and Friday 15 January. Instructions on how your child joins a Microsoft Teams lesson is attached below. All pupils will be required to attend an assembly by their Head of Year on Tuesday 5 January. The times of these will be sent to you on Monday 4 January, along with instructions on how to join.

Please note that your child will not be receiving a PE/Games lesson for the next two weeks, but please can you ensure that they take part in regular physical activity during the time they are not in school.

School will also be open to vulnerable students in all year groups from Tuesday 5 January, as well as the younger children of critical workers who cannot be left at home. If you think this applies to you, please email [rossj@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:rossj@goldington.beds.sch.uk) no later than 4 January stating clearly the name of your child and your profession. There is no need for your child to wear school uniform, but you will need to provide them with a packed lunch unless you are entitled to free school meals.

We will be in further contact on Monday 4 January with regard to how we plan to implement a testing programme for all students on their return to school.

Let us all hope that 2021 is a slightly easier year than 2020. Our aim for the next two weeks is to provide your child with as good an education experience as possible.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



**Francis Galbraith**  
**Principal**

## **Remote learning login instructions**

Remote teaching will be delivered via Microsoft Teams. Your child will be using the same Office365 account they currently use to access their school emails. To gain access to a remote lesson, your child will need to navigate to the "Useful Links" page of our website (we recommend using Google Chrome for this). They will then need to click on the Office365 link as normal, logging in with:

- Their full email address: 'studentusername'@goldington.beds.sch.uk
- The same password used when logging on to one of our school computers.

On the left hand side they will find a menu and the 3rd icon from the bottom is Microsoft Teams. From there they will simply click the relevant class and join the lesson. The rules and expectations will be outlined at the start of every session. Any logon queries should be directed to '[techsupport@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:techsupport@goldington.beds.sch.uk)' and any subject / lesson specific queries should go to the appropriate class teacher.