



ST WILFRID'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Principal: Miss C Huddleston BA PGCE MBA

Address: St Wilfrid's C of E Academy, Duckworth Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 2JR
Tel: 01254 604000 Email: enquiries@saintwilfrids.co.uk Web: www.saintwilfrids.co.uk

8th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well. I am writing to inform you of the provision we are putting in place to support your child and you as a family during this period of remote learning.

May I first of all take this opportunity to say that our school is not closed. Although we are unable to function in our usual way, we still have a committed body of staff who are working to teach and support your child so that they learn and feel safe. Should you need to contact us regarding your child's progress or welfare please do so by sending an email to enquiries@saintwilfrids.com or by phoning 01254 604000.

Remote Learning

We value feedback that we have received from parents and students regarding teaching during the pandemic. As a result, we will be adapting how we deliver our teaching to students who are unable to be in the Academy: -

- All students in Year 7 to 11 will attend a **daily meeting on Microsoft Teams** with their form tutor at 8.40am each weekday morning which they will be invited to by their form tutor. This will help the students be up and ready to learn and thus will help your child prepare for the day. This also provides us with an opportunity to communicate key information and identify difficulties students may be having. An invite to this meeting will be posted on their Firefly account and they will also receive a Teams invite via email. **It is crucial therefore that students have access to MS Teams either via their iPad or another device at home.** A video with guidance for students on how to use MS Teams will be posted on Firefly shortly. **A video on how to use Microsoft Teams can be found [via this link](#).**
- We expect all students to follow their usual school timetable. For example, if your child has a French lesson P4 on a Thursday, at 1.20pm they should be completing the French work that has been set or participating in their French Live lesson. The timings of the Academy day can be found on page 2 of this letter. Please note, lessons will start at the allocated time and last for 50 minutes. This will give your child an opportunity to move away from their screen for 10 minutes between each lesson.
- Students in KS4 & 5 will be expected to attend a greater number of online Live Lessons. **A video that explains to students how Live Lessons will work, can be found by [clicking here](#).**

If your child is unwell and unable to complete their online learning due to their illness, please follow the normal absence procedure by telephoning Mrs Gronow, our Attendance Manager, on 01254 604000 who will alert your child's teachers to their absence from remote learning that day. If your child is struggling with the work set, or you are experiencing technical issues accessing the lessons, please contact us immediately. Likewise, we will phone or email you if we feel that your child isn't completing the work set to the best of their ability or we have any concerns regarding their work output, just as we would if they were in our physical classroom within the Academy.

Provision for the children of critical workers

We continue to provide education within the Academy for the children of critical workers. If you require a critical worker place for your child and have not yet contacted the Academy to confirm a start date, please can you do so as soon as possible on 01254 604000. Those students attending the Academy must attend in full uniform from 8.40am – 3.20pm (2.20pm on a Tuesday) with their school bag, books and equipment. It is essential that students bring a fully charged iPad and a pair of headphones as they will be required to attend online learning for their scheduled lessons from their classroom base. Those students who loan an Academy device will still be able to access this during the school day. Students are **not required** to wear their PE kit on their scheduled PE day.

Year 11 & Year 13 Summer exams

The Prime Minister's announcement regarding the changes to the 2021 summer exam series has raised many questions that we do not yet know the answers to. Whilst the exams will not take place in the intended format, (except for vocational exams) assessment processes have not been cancelled. In due course, the Government and exam boards will inform us about how we will measure, report and account for the progress our students have made this year. It is therefore essential that your child keeps studying at this crucial time as they continue to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and talents. This is not the time for them to take their foot off the gas. As always, we are here to support, challenge, reassure and inspire your child.

*Lord direct us to **live** life to the full*



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Free School Meals

If your son/ daughter is eligible for Free School Meals, Mrs Rees will contact you to explain how you can pick up your food parcel. If you have any queries regarding this please contact grees@saintwilfrids.com

Year 8 Online parents' Evening

The scheduled Online Parents Evening on **Thursday 14th January** will still take place. We have been encouraged by the number of parents who have swiftly booked appointments, and we are looking forward to speaking to the parents of Year 8 students. A letter will follow early next week with final details and guidance on how to log in to your video appointments for the evening. If you are a parent of a child in Year 8, and are experiencing any technical difficulties regarding the booking process or have any questions regarding this, please contact jfagan@saintwilfrids.com

We do not know when we will be reunited as an Academy community. The way in which we function as a school will evolve as we progress through the current lockdown. We will continue to communicate with you via our internet site and Firefly when we have any further information.

Finally, I pray that you and your family remain safe over this period of time and although we are not physically in contact, please be assured that we are working hard to ensure your child continues to thrive.

With sincere thanks,

Miss C Huddleston
Principal

Timings of the Academy day

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

8:40	ONLINE TUTOR / REGISTRATION	10 min
8:50	PERIOD 1	60 min
9:50	PERIOD 2	60 min
10:50	PERIOD 3 (INC. 20 MIN BREAK)	80 min
12:10	LUNCH & FORM TIME PROGRAMME (INC. 15 MIN WEEKLY TUTOR MS TEAMS CHECK-IN)	70 min
1:20	PERIOD 4	60 min
2:20	PERIOD 5	60 min
3:20		

TUESDAY

8:40	ONLINE TUTOR / REGISTRATION	10 min
8:50	PERIOD 1	50 min
9:40	PERIOD 2	50 min
10:30	PERIOD 3 (INC. 20 MIN BREAK)	70 min
11:40	PERIOD 4	50 min
12:30	LUNCH & FORM TIME PROGRAMME (INC. 15 MIN WEEKLY TUTOR MS TEAMS CHECK-IN)	60 min
1:30	PERIOD 5	50 min
2:20		

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