



Chapelhouse Road
Chelmsley Wood
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Telephone Number: 0121 329 4600
solihull@graceacademy.org.uk

31 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The government announced on Wednesday 30th December, that in response to rapidly rising case rates of Coronavirus, they would be pushing back the staggered return for secondary schools by one week.

As such

- **Students in Years 11 and 13 will return to the academy for face to face lessons on Monday 11th January 2021**
- **Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will return to the academy for face to face lessons on Monday 18th January 2021**

During the first week of the spring term, the academy will focus on preparation for the rollout of rapid testing to help find asymptomatic cases and we will be communicating the arrangements for these early next week.

Students identified as vulnerable should attend the academy as normal from Monday 4th January at their normal staggered start time. They will be engaged in accessing the remote curriculum offer as per other students not attending the academy. As communicated previously the academy will also be offering a provision if needed for the children of critical workers. If you are identified as a critical worker by the government and want your child to attend from Monday 4th January please contact us at GAS-covid@graceacademy.org.uk.

Remote Learning arrangements:

- For students in exam years (**11 and 13**) online learning provision for the week commencing 4th January will consist of remote curriculum and live lessons.
- For other year groups (**7-10 and 12**) online learning provision for the week commencing 4th January will consist of remote curriculum resources. We will update parents/carers early next week when we are able to commence live lessons for these year groups.

Remote Curriculum:

To support your child working from home we have created a **bespoke remote learning curriculum** for each year group that directly links to our school's high curriculum expectations. This remote curriculum is accessible from **Monday 4th January** by clicking the **Remote Learning Curriculum** button on our academy website and then clicking through to the Remote Learning (COVID) page. To access you will require your Grace Academy email address (ac0100****@graceacademy.org.uk). If you have any issues logging on please email: help@gas-ict.on.spiceworks.com

When students follow this link they will find a daily timetable that will provide you with a week of work following a similar timetable to that which students would have in school. **At the end of each day there is a learning review form to complete** which their Head of Year will review and their teachers will use to gauge how well they are progressing through the curriculum. These responses will be reviewed to ensure that students are making the expected effort to keep up with their studies. The Assistant Heads of Year will be following up with any students who are not accessing the remote curriculum.

These remote education resources have been selected to allow access to high-quality online resources and teaching videos that directly link to the school's curriculum expectations.



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Live Online Lessons:

To supplement the timetabled distance learning from **Tuesday 5th of January** we will be **delivering live online English, maths, science and humanities lessons to all students in year 11**. These live online lessons which students can access from home will give them an opportunity to work through material with direction from a teacher and to ask questions. During each of the lessons there will be a question and answer session so that students can also ask about other distance learning activities they have been completing. If your child can access these live lessons they should be completed instead of some of the activities in the daily distance learning schedule.

We have considered at length the safety and privacy of your children and all concerned. These lessons will be broadcast on a live stream from a studio in the academy and there will be no video feed from your son/daughter's computer to either the school or other students. Students will be able to interact with the teacher and ask questions by emailing throughout each session; these messages are private so they do not need to be worried about other students seeing their questions.

These lessons will be delivered throughout the day from **Tuesday 5th of January**, and students should then complete additional tasks from the remote learning curriculum. As always to safeguard our students your son/daughter will need to access this with their school email address and password.

Support accessing online resources

If you feel your son/daughter might experience difficulty in accessing the bespoke remote curriculum please contact the academy and we can discuss how we can support them.

Free school meals

If your child is entitled to free school meals, the academy will be providing a weekly food pack that can be collected direct from us next week. If you want to take up this offer please email the academy at solihull@graceacademy.org.uk by 10am on Monday 4th January or phone the office and we will create a food pack for you. The food packs will be ready for collection on Tuesday 5th January.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Gelder
Principal- For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust