



## Newsletter (30) – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

This is my first newsletter since the full lockdown was announced on Monday. We had already been asked to have students learning mostly from home this week as you know, and now I can confirm that this arrangement will extend for several weeks, at least till half term in February.

Arrangements for students learning from home are the same as I said in my last letter, but I will repeat them here:

### Learning from home

- All lessons will be delivered at their usual time, via Teams. There are no changes to your child's timetable including timings of lessons.
- Students should join their tutor time at 8.30am and all Teams lessons on time.
- A register of attendance will be taken in every lesson and we will follow up concerns where students do not appear to be accessing the sessions from home.
- If the reason for not accessing Teams is to do with IT equipment please do contact the school. We are applying for more IT equipment to help with home learning so do please ask.
- We expect all students to follow safe and respectful behaviour when on Teams calls.
- Families of students entitled to Free School Meals will receive vouchers, exactly the same as we operated before the summer.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Form students who learn at Henry Box or Abingdon and Witney College will receive separate information from Mr Armstrong. As stated previously, Henry Box students who learn at Wood Green should access their lessons via Teams.

### Real School learning

Now that we know that our Real School provision needs to operate for several weeks and we are trying to reduce the number of adults on site, we are making a few alterations to how Real School will work. Each student will be part of one bubble, either: Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10/11, Achievement Centre, Curriculum Support/H1. Students will have a base room with IT access and they will attend their Teams lessons from their base room. There will be at least one adult in each room and a member of leadership team on duty every day. There will be low numbers of students in each base room (usually no more than seven) so it will be a safe environment and we are confident that social distancing will be easily maintained.

Real School students do not need to wear uniform. However, we do expect them to behave as they should on any school day, including following rules regarding mobile phones and masks.

Lunch will happen at the usual time, so students should bring a packed lunch. Those students entitled to Free School Meals who are in school will be provided with a packed lunch.

We believe that all buses and taxis should operate as usual. If there are any issues about this please contact the School Office and we will aim to help sort these.

We have come a long way from those early days of setting two weeks of work to be done at home independently via Insight. Staff are working very hard to provide live learning all day, and to offer Real School and all the set up that requires.

Our priorities in the next few days are to get Teams teaching fully operational, to identify students who are struggling to access for whatever reason, to absorb and respond to the news about exams and to continue to investigate the use of testing for those who are attending school.

School is definitely not closed, just very different again. I know the challenges that some of our families face yet again because of this new lockdown; we are here to work together.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Shadbolt". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Mr R Shadbolt  
Headteacher