



Dear Parents/Carers

Newsletter (31) – 8th January 2021

Three days into the lockdown, I am so impressed by the way everyone has responded and made the enormous adjustment. Thank you for all the emails of thanks, in particular for the remote learning. Sorry if you have not had an individual response but these are much appreciated. Of course, we don't get everything right, but we are all working with the best of intentions. So if there is a concern, please raise it and we can deal with it collaboratively.

The responses we have received suggest that the live lessons are generally better for student mental wellbeing than the independent learning of last year. We are also thinking about the physical wellbeing, including the inevitable amounts of screen time, for staff and students.

The items in this letter give some important information covering a variety of issues. Please take the time to go through them.

Covid Tests:

During this period of Lockdown it is important that we are still informed of any potential Covid cases. Therefore, if your child or any member of your household has to have a Covid Test, please can you email attendance@wgswitney.org.uk to let us know about the test(s) and inform us of the result(s) (positive or negative) when they are received.

This will enable us to keep our attendance records up to date so we have a reference of students whose education has been further affected by a positive Covid case. Also, for continued reporting to the DfE.

Some IT Tips to try if you are having issues with remote learning:

- Student's e-mail address always follows the same format: it is the year they started followed by their surname with a capital letter to start, a full stop and then their initial as a capital letter and then the Wood Green e-mail i.e. 14Student.A@wgswitney.org.uk would be the address for a student called A.Student who started in Sept 2014
- Student's log on details for their Insight account are the same as the log on they use for the computers at school
- If your child has not received an invite to a Teams lesson, they should e-mail their teacher so they can manually send them an invite to the lesson
- Teams works best on either Google Chrome or the most recent version of Microsoft Edge. Do not use Internet Explorer.

Attendance on Insight:

The government has advised that we code students with the 'X' code on their registers on our systems which shows school is closed due to the national lockdown. This doesn't affect students' overall attendance as it removes the X codes from the attendance calculations. Effectively, it gives a student 100% attendance for the time the school has to shut.

However, the issue is that on Insight the 'X' code shows as 'not attended' for lessons which is incorrect and is causing some worry. Unfortunately Insight doesn't link to Microsoft Teams as the systems were never designed with full remote learning in mind due to pandemics. Although you see this 'not attended' your child is still marked as present for the day. You will see this in their overall attendance figure. We are sorry for the confusion this may cause parents.

We are currently recording which students log on to Teams and will be reporting to parents if students aren't logging on. If your child is attending their online learning, we will know and it is being recorded and recognised.

Oxfordshire Youth - Free Mental Health Awareness Sessions for Parents/Carers:

We all know what stresses lockdown can put on family life. Oxfordshire Youth are currently offering free Mental Health Awareness sessions for parents and carers. Please find attached a flyer with more information. All sessions can be booked through their website - <https://oxfordshireyouth.org/events/>

Drama Department Subscription to National Theatre TV:

Bored of what's on the television? The **Drama Department** has subscribed to The National Theatre library which allows staff, students, and their families at home to watch past productions from The National Theatre. There is a wide scope of fantastic plays on there. All we ask is that you do not share the log in details with any families not associated with Wood Green School. The link and login details are below-

<https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/custom-browse?docid=nationalTheatreCollection>

Log in is in the top right-hand corner of the link above

Username: woodgreenschooldrama

Password: hobdaystudio

Enjoy!

I wish everyone a good weekend and we will settle into the new routines next week.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Shadbolt
Headteacher