



PARMITER'S SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1681

Headmaster: Mr M Jones BA MEd

This information was shared with parents/carers via e-mail on 26 November 2020. This information is relevant when a student is absent from school but the majority of their year group remain in school attending face-to-face lessons.

Dear Parents/Carers of students in Years 10, 11, 12 & 13,

As many of you will be aware, we have been steadily increasing the number of live streamed lessons offered to students who are isolating. We have been very grateful for your support and for the constructive feedback students have offered after they have experienced live streamed lessons. We are all on a very steep learning curve, both in terms of the technology and helping students to access learning remotely.

I am writing to let you know that from Monday 30 November, staff will be offering live streamed lessons to all students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 who are unable to attend school on a short term basis. This obviously includes all students who are isolating, but also for students who are absent for other authorised reasons.

If absent from school, students are expected to attend the live streamed lesson. This will take place at the same time as their usual timetabled lesson. Attending the live streamed lessons is important to provide continuity of education, as well as allowing students to feel connected to their peers during their absence. Details of how to access live streamed lessons via Google Classroom are available on the school website under Parents - Remote Learning (or click [here](#))

Live streamed lessons involve the student accessing their usual classroom based lesson remotely, using the functionality within their Google Classroom. To do this they will need a suitable electronic device, such as a laptop, computer, tablet or chromebook. Mobile phones can be used if no other device is available, but are not ideal. As a minimum, the device needs speakers and a microphone (which will often be built into the device anyway). It is helpful, but not essential, if the device has a camera. Our student surveys have indicated that the vast majority of students do have access to a device, but if the lack of a suitable device is / becomes an issue for your family please contact Ms Hall (Years 10 & 11) or Mr Porter (Years 12 & 13) and we will endeavour to help.

We recognise that in some circumstances, a student may be too unwell to attend a live streamed lesson. Once well enough, they must start attending. As when students miss 'normal' lessons, if they miss a live streamed lesson they are expected to copy up work from one of their peers. Attendance at live streamed lessons will be logged by the teacher and monitored by Heads of Year.

Live streamed lessons will be available in all subjects, except for Year 10 & 11 Games lessons. Instead, we ask that you encourage your child to remain active during their absence from school. There are a range of suggested activities available in their Google Classroom if they need ideas and inspiration.

Before accessing a live streamed lesson, we ask that students and parents/carers familiarise themselves with our expectations. **I attach appendix 4 from our school ICT & e-Safety policy that details our expectations of student conduct, good practice and acceptable use when attending a live streamed lesson.** The [ICT & e-Safety policy](#) can be found on the school website if you wish to read the full document. Other key points from this policy are:

- Where a teacher offers a live streamed lesson, this will be done via the Google Meet functionality within Google Classroom. No other platforms will be used for live streamed lessons. All staff and students will use their school accounts when delivering / accessing a live streamed lesson.
- The audience for live streamed lessons are the students of Parmiter's school. We ask that parents/carers ensure their child has a suitable space to work that means other members of the household are not listening in or disrupting a live streamed lesson. If this is the case, the teacher may ask the student to leave the lesson.
- Students must recognise that joining a live streamed lesson cannot replicate the learning experience in a classroom. There may be some classroom activities that students joining virtually cannot actively participate in. A live streamed lesson may vary in length; teachers will use their professional judgement as to whether the student is required to remain on the live streamed lesson for the full lesson, or whether once they have received instruction regarding the work they complete the set tasks offline.

We expect student behaviour in the virtual classroom to mirror that in the physical classroom, and I trust that we can rely on your support with this. The school Behaviour Policy applies, including rewards and sanctions. The school reserves the right to turn off a student's microphone, remove them from a live streamed lesson and/or deny them access to future live streamed lessons if their behaviour causes any disruption.

Our staff have worked extremely hard to upskill themselves in the necessary technology. However, this is still new to us and we appreciate your patience and understanding if there are occasions when things don't quite go according to plan. In addition, please be aware that if a teacher is absent there will be no live streamed lessons; we will endeavour to let students know this is the case and provide alternative work. Again, we appreciate your understanding where we have to manage staff absence.

Ideally, your child will continue to attend school as normal. However, the likelihood is that more students will need to isolate at some point over the coming months. We hope this development in our provision will provide you with reassurance that an enforced absence due to the requirement to self-isolate will have minimal impact on their education.