



Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Remote Learning Arrangement: National Lockdown January/February 2021

As you know, Boris Johnson, the Prime Minister, announced a national lockdown starting immediately which includes the closure of schools. We heard this news at the same time as the rest of the nation, during the Prime Minister's message to the nation at 8pm on Monday evening. We were issued with an email update from the Department of Education at 10.50pm on Monday night.

The Department for Education have told us that:

- During the period of national lockdown schools will remain open to vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers only. All other children and students will learn remotely until February half term.
- In these circumstances, we do not think it is possible for exams to go ahead fairly this summer. The Secretary of State for Education will be asking Ofqual to consult rapidly on an approach for alternative arrangements that will allow students to progress fairly.

As soon as we are given any further information regarding GCSE and A Level arrangements we will let you know.

Please review the information provided below carefully as there are a number of changes to arrangements shared earlier this week and last week.

Critical worker provision available from Tuesday 5th January 2021.

If you are a Critical Worker and would like your child to attend the Critical Worker Provision please complete this form: [Application for Critical Workers Provision](#) or contact the school via officeadmin@olchs.co.uk. **Critical worker provision runs from 9.00am to 2.50pm Monday to Friday.**

Change to lesson times - effective from Wednesday 6th January 2021.

As we now know we will be running the whole school remotely for this half-term we will be moving to a standardised teaching hours model for the whole school during this period. Students will be following their usual timetable but lessons will take place as these new - revised times for their lessons. These timings will start from Wednesday 6th January 2021. Please note this will come online for Years 7, 8 & 9 on Friday 8th January.

Lesson times from Wednesday 6th January (Y7, 8 & 9 from Friday 8th January):

Registration:	9.00am to 9.20am	20mins
Lesson 1:	9.20am to 10.50am	1hr 30mins
Break	10.50am to 11.10am	20mins
Lesson 2:	11.10am to 12.40pm	1hr 30mins
Lunch	12.40pm to 1.20pm	40mins
Lesson 3:	1.20pm to 2.50pm	1hr 30mins

Students are expected to log into their Google Classrooms promptly for each of their lessons at the times shown above. They will need to log into their Form Group Google Classroom for Registration at 9.00am and then into their subject Google Classrooms for each of their three lessons at the times shown above. Students are following their current timetable, they should have a copy of this in their planners. We will post a copy of timetables so parents have a copy too. As a reminder, we operate a two week timetable, and we started this half-term on Week A:

- Week A: week beginning Monday 4th January 2021
- Week B: week beginning Monday 11th January 2021
- Week A: week beginning Monday 18th January 2021
- Week B: week beginning Monday 25th January 2021
- Week A: week beginning Monday 1st February 2021
- Week B: week beginning Monday 8th February 2021
- Half-term: week beginning Monday 15th February 2021

Summary for each year group:**Year 13**

- Online lessons start from Tuesday 5th January 2021. Students should be following their usual timetable and using the new times of the day shown above from Wednesday 6th January. Mock exams will take place remotely - set by class teachers - week beginning Monday 11th January.

Year 12

- Online lessons start from Wednesday 6th January 2021. Students should be following their usual timetable and using the new times of the day shown above. Mock exams will take place remotely - set by class teachers - week beginning Monday 18th January.

Year 11

- Online lessons start from Tuesday 5th January 2021. Students should be following their usual timetable and using the new times of the day shown above from Wednesday 6th January 2021.

Year 10

- Online lessons start from Wednesday 6th January 2021. Students should be following their usual timetable and using the new times of the day shown above.

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Year 7, 8 & 9

- Remote Learning Packs for English, Maths and Science provided via Form Class Google Classrooms for use on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th January 2021.
- Online lessons start from Friday 8th January 2021. Students should be following their usual timetable and using the new times of the day shown above.

Over this week we will be setting up online lessons for each year group - by the end of the week all students will be able to receive online lessons:

- Lessons will be delivered via Google Classrooms and will include opportunities for students to meet virtually with their teachers via the Google Classroom.
- We will work with families where students do not have computer access to provide digital devices over this week.
- From Monday 11th January hard copy will be provided with families without internet access.
- If you have any questions, queries or problems accessing Google Classroom please log this and we will get back to you: [Technical Support Form](#)
- We will work with the DfE and local authority to set up a Free School Meal provision as soon as possible.

Contacting the school

- Your child can contact her form tutor and subject teachers through the Google Classrooms.
- If you need to contact us regarding your child's learning please send your query to the Head of year:

Year 7:	Mr Carter:	dcarter@olchs.co.uk
Year 8:	Miss Ruffell:	sruffell@olchs.co.uk
Year 9:	Ms Lopes:	vlopes@olchs.co.uk
Year 10:	Mrs Adams:	jadams@olchs.co.uk
Year 11:	Mr Shine:	pshine@olchs.co.uk
Sixth Form:	Mr Bailey:	dbailey@olchs.co.uk

- For general queries please contact the school via officeadmin@olchs.co.uk or on 020 8800 2158 between 8am and 3pm if you have any questions or queries

Examinations: Year 11 and Year 13,

In the light of the Government's announcement on Monday evening, it is natural that Year 11, Year 13 and their families will have questions about what this means with regard to assessing students for GCSE and A Levels. Unfortunately, we do not have any definitive answers to this question nor do the exam boards. We expect that Ofqual will consult with the exam boards and share proposals with us in the coming weeks. We will ensure that we let you know about any additional information or clarifications as soon as we hear.

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What we can tell you is what we learnt from our experience from last summer. Firstly, it is essential for access to the next level of study, training or career that students continue to focus on all of their courses. Whilst there is a complete lack of clarity about external exams this summer, we know that there will be some form of assessment of progress and achievement put in place. This is likely to include an element of centre assessed grade - i.e. grades that the school provides, moderated internally and against historical performance of the school and students - and a ranked list of grades for each subject.

Therefore, any time you are asked to sit a paper, a test or submit a piece of work that will be marked, it is important that this reflects your true ability in your subject. These pieces of information and data will be used as evidence by subject teachers if they are required to submit Centre Assessed Grades and the rankings of the students in their classes. There is the possibility that schools will be required to provide evidence to exam boards when submitting Centre Assessed Grades.

This is the best advice we can give you at this time.

Further information

Updates, letters and resources to support remote learning will all be hosted on our school website. You can locate this via the home page or by following this link:

<https://www.ourladys.hackney.sch.uk/remote>

I appreciate that this is a very troubling time for everyone both in this community and across the nation. We must continue to support each other by adhering to the strict measures put in place to reduce transmission of Covid-19 but also support each other to connect through our learning communities. We know we can thrive despite the challenges.

Please keep all of the school community of Our Lady's High School in your prayers and thoughts. May we all stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justine McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'M'.

Justine McDonald
Headteacher