

Wednesday, 6th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are beginning a new year with the return of lockdown and all of us are hoping that the situation will improve soon. We know that this is a difficult time for many of our families, and we hope you are all well and doing everything possible to stay safe. I want to write to clarify a few of our arrangements, some of which will start immediately and some will be

The lockdown arrangement that has been announced means that:

- The vast majority of our students will be learning online. They will have access to their full timetable of lessons.
- The children of key workers and a small number of other students have been invited into school. You will already have been contacted if you are eligible.

Please contact [info@eastlea.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@eastlea.newham.sch.uk) if you have any questions about either of the above.

### **Online Learning**

Whilst students are at home they should access their learning via Google Classroom. During the first term of school we have been working with students in preparation for online learning so they should be aware of how to access this.

Students should log into Google Classroom **each day** for learning materials that have been posted by the teachers for their classes that day. 'Live' lessons will start next week and will be for one lesson per week per subject. This means that a teacher will be present online, teaching your child and setting them learning tasks. The schedule for this can also be found on the 'Blended Learning' page of our school website.

We recognise that engaging with learning whilst at home can be a challenge for some students. Please help your child to develop good learning habits and routines. We are also aware that many families will be sharing devices and therefore students may not be able to complete all of their lessons immediately. However, we do expect them to engage with their learning at some point each day, and we will be making contact with parents if we are concerned that their child is not accessing their learning.

### **Pastoral Support**

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We understand that lockdown can be an isolating time for our young people. We want to ensure that they are able to access support and guidance when they need it therefore we shall be doing the following:

- Weekly online assembly for each year group - your child should access this online through Google Classroom.
- Form time on some days with their tutor. This will be -accessed online through Google Classroom, students will be notified of the days and times.
- Routine check-in telephone calls from their Achievement Leader or Pastoral Manager.

### **Year 11 GCSEs**

The recent announcements regarding the GCSEs this year are particularly difficult for our Year 11s. The year group has been working hard to catch up on learning time missed. We will write to year 11 parents as soon as we have more information on what will replace exams. It is very important that year 11s continue to study and not lose momentum as they will still be assessed on their work.

### **Free School Meals**

Vouchers are being provided for all students who are eligible for Free School Meals. If you have any questions, please email [info@eastlea.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@eastlea.newham.sch.uk)

### **On-site safety**

Only a few students are attending school at present, however, we want to reassure you that in light of recent developments, we have reviewed our risk assessment and it now states the following:

- ,All students and staff on site must wear a suitable mask at all times unless:
  - during an outdoor practical lesson with sufficient distancing;
  - they are the only person in the room.

Our risk assessment is continuously being reviewed in the light of advice from the Department for Education, Public Health and others, and you will be able to see further revisions on our website once the latest version has been signed off by our Governors on Thursday

I hope that this gives you some reassurance of the provision for your child during lockdown. Please ensure that your child is regularly checking their school emails and Google Classroom as this is where they will receive notifications of their lessons.

Finally, I give our students and parents my very best wishes for making the necessary adjustments in the difficult weeks ahead.

Yours faithfully



Sarah Morgan  
**Head of School**