



5 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well.

From 8^h June 2020 we will be moving our remote learning provision for Year 12 study provision across to Google Classroom. This transition will be complete by the 15 June 2020. The remote learning will now also be complemented by opportunities for 'face-to-face' contact with individual subject teachers in the form of monitoring/support video meetings through Zoom. The attached PDF gives further details about this and how to access Google Classroom.

There will be further guidance for students, parents, carers and staff about the use of Zoom in order to ensure that we are all following the same, clear guidelines. I would encourage you to read the PDF and install the app and/or access Google Classroom in the coming days to allow some time to familiarise yourselves with how it works before the full roll out on the 15 June 2020.

To support this transition there are video tutorials that have been prepared by Mr Grant to make it easy for everyone to access Google Classroom. These can be found here;

For use on a computer

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9sBIARYrztup6pOMIDPhd_sO5S3ccaju and for

For use on a smartphones and tablets here <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9sBIARYrztv2FAjFyEIKz26V8dhlw7NF>

The most important thing is to log on with a SCHOOL email account and password or it will not allow them access. (XXXX@whitbyhs.cheshire.sch.uk)



The app is by far the easiest way to access it and will allow very straightforward uploading of photographs of work. When students log on prior to the 15 June 2020 they will see their classes but many will not have any assignments yet – do not worry they will be there!

The rationale for moving to Google Classroom is that it is a more straightforward way to allow students to see the work that has been assigned to them each day. **Students will no longer have to go through the Resource Hub.** The benefits of this new system are:

- ✓ Google Classroom allows students to submit their work straight to their teachers, eliminating the need for emails back and to between staff and students.
- ✓ Google Classroom also allows staff to acknowledge and feedback on work in a more streamlined way, again, without the need for email.
- ✓ Google Classroom allows students to access their work at a time when this works best for them and their households. We realise that many of you are sharing devices as you try to manage working from home, remote learning and all of the other household issues that occur day-to-day.
- ✓ Students will only see the assignments relevant to them as they have been set up in Google Classroom in accordance with their subject choices automatically.
- ✓ Students will not have to join any groups, this has already been done.

Over the last few weeks staff have also learned how remote learning works best for our students. As such, the lessons being set will now be designed to be done in 60 minutes, rather than longer projects (excluding perhaps the 'creative' subjects) as we believe that this is more manageable and less daunting. Lessons will include some recorded video content (some recorded by Whitby staff) as a method of explaining instructions and content. The lessons will be designed to be accessible on a small screen (i.e. a mobile phone/tablet) if necessary as we appreciate that many of our students are using these devices to access their work. For those using phones or tablets the lesson tasks will be designed to be handwritten and photographed if necessary. These photographs can also be uploaded as files for those using computers.

This has been a steep learning curve for our staff (and continues to be as we learn how to engage with remote learning most effectively) and we expect that we will develop our lessons and methods further as time goes on. Please bear with us as we roll this out– we are learning too!

We know that the vast majority of students in Y12 are able to continue to study from home and the enhancement of this with Google Classroom, complemented by our 1-1 monitoring meetings will be a good solution to the requirements of government guidance.

We anticipate that a very small number of Y12 students may require school provision due to a lack of engagement with their course material (making them at risk of not being able to complete their courses) or a lack of access to suitable technology at home. This school provision will not be teaching but simply provision of study space and 'light-touch' supervision throughout the day. Students will be expected to self-study, following the stringent social distancing and infection control measures in place and remain in their group

at all times. Please contact Miss R Hughes, Head of Sixth Form, for more information if required.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Heeley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr B Heeley
Headteacher