



31st December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Yesterday the government announced changes to their pre-Christmas plans for a staggered return to school in January, which now means that your child will now be returning to school on **Monday 18th January**. All students are asked to focus on Century online learning for Maths, English and Science on Monday 4th January and lessons will be set and run from Tuesday 5th January in all other subjects.

As explained in the letter we sent out to you on December 18th children will be able to access remote learning through their **Teams** classroom. Teachers have been adding work and assignments to this classroom throughout the year, so students should be used to this way of working and all work can be easily found in one place.

From Tuesday 5th January teachers will be following their normal timetable; students should have a copy of their timetable in their student diary, however, it can also be seen on Go4Schools. Please feel free to get in touch from January 4th if you have any difficulties with this.

Work online

- **English, Maths and Science** will be completed using **Century online learning** – this is explained in more detail below – students will be assigned topics to work through by their teachers.
- **History, Geography and Spanish** teachers will upload lessons and resources onto **Teams** on the day of their usual lesson.
- **All other subjects** will set **assignments on Teams** for students to complete each week.

Home Learning on Teams

All students have been shown how to access Teams and have started to use it regularly to access work. Teams can be downloaded onto laptops, tablets, and phones. Students can also easily access their Teams by going into their school Outlook emails and clicking on the 9 dots in the top left-hand corner of the screen and selecting Teams. They will need to know their school login and password / school email login and password to get into Teams. Please contact school if your son/daughter has any problems with this.

This link is a student friendly explanation about how Teams works, if a refresher is needed:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aO9LE6ZKnUM&feature=youtu.be>

Century for English, Maths and Science:

There is a Century tab in students' Teams room which gives them easy access to Century, or they can login through <https://app.century.tech/login/>. Century is currently designed to be used on computers or tablets, and works better on them than on phones because the nuggets take about 10-15 minutes to complete and are best done without the distractions of various apps found on mobile phones. If your son/daughter forgets their login or password, please feel free to get in touch with Jo Cooper (Deputy Headteacher) at jo.cooper@whptrust.org from Monday 4th January.

We appreciate that home learning does pose some challenges, not least of all, around access to the technology needed for home learning. Please get in touch with the school if you have any questions or concerns. We are also making arrangements for families with children who receive free school meals to receive a voucher next week, either by post (all Aldi vouchers and some Sainsburys vouchers if requested) or by email (all Tesco vouchers).

Finally, the government are also keen for schools to put in place systems for students and school staff to be routinely tested for Coronavirus in school (in an effort to minimise issues such as asymptomatic transmission of Coronavirus); we are awaiting further details but are putting plans in place to get this up and running, however, I want to reassure parents that we will not carry out testing on students without parental permission. We will be sending more details to parents and carers about the testing process as soon as we have more information and plans are confirmed.

The challenges of 2020 have been significant, and I am continually impressed by the way our students, staff and the wider community adapt to them and carry on. Life has been and continues to be difficult for many members of our school community and I want to reassure you that we are working as hard as we can to offer the personalised support needed in such unusual times. I am hopeful for 2021 and what it may bring and look forward to seeing your children back in school on **Monday 18th January**.

With kindest regards,

Heidi Gale
Headteacher
Bramcote College