



Home Learning while self-isolating

If you receive this letter because your child is required to self-isolate and they do not have access to a computer, laptop or large tablet to join the online lessons, please contact your child's Head of Year to see if we can help on the school number or via email.

Please be reassured that we will continue to provide educational and pastoral support while your child is learning remotely. While we cannot teach remotely in the same way as we would if your child were in school (as much as we would love to, we simply do not have the capacity!), we have been working hard to ensure that we will align our online provision with the curriculum being delivered in-school. We are really pleased to be able to say that your child will be able to access a 'livestream' of most lessons through their own computer. Please read the following carefully for more details.

Accessing lessons remotely:

- As many lessons as possible are now being live-streamed, using **Microsoft Teams**.
- Students should follow their normal timetable each day. At the start of each lesson, they should go to the appropriate Team for that class. The class team will usually have the same **code** as your child would see on their timetable, for example: 2020-7X-en3.
- Once in the Team, your child will **either** see a Teams meeting **or** a code to join a Zoom meeting. They should join whichever meeting is running, and they will be able to see the lesson that is being taught. On being let into the meeting, they will most likely see a PowerPoint or some other kind of projected material.
- Please note that **cameras** will not usually be switched on, so your child will only see projected materials, not the faces of their teacher or classmates. They should be able to hear the teacher's instructions and taught content.
- Not all subjects will be live-streaming lessons because they do not lend themselves to this. **PE, Food and DT (because of issues surrounding the availability of specific software) will not have live-streamed lessons.** Instead, students should work through the tasks set by their teachers, or (in the case of PE) use the time to do some independent study. ***Please note, there may be some Food and DT lessons where it is possible to access live-streamed lessons.*** Please check on Microsoft Teams to see if there is a Teams meeting or code to join a Zoom meeting.

Other important points:

It is important that children realise that this will not be the same as the remote lessons that they may have accessed when schools were largely closed earlier this year. We are describing them as a **"window into the lesson,"** which might be helpful in clarifying the nature of the experience. We ask for your understanding of the following points:

- However well we do it, this experience will not be as good as the real thing; there is no substitute for being in the classroom and learning alongside peers. We do believe that this is as close to being the "next best thing" as any school could reasonably offer but think it important to be honest about the

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limitations from the start. The model won't be perfect, but we think it will be far preferable to accessing work remotely, without the natural structure to the day and human interaction that giving students a window into lessons provides.

- The class teacher will be teaching their class as normal and teachers have been told that the students in school must be their immediate priority. **Students accessing the lesson from home will have to be prepared to be patient and flexible:** it is very difficult to teach two types of lesson at the same time, and there are certain activities where it is impossible!
- Your child will be able to **see and listen in**. There may be instances where your child is able to answer questions during discussion, though this may not always be possible.
- There will be times when lessons cannot be live-streamed. This is likely to be the case when the **class teacher is absent** and a cover supervisor is taking the class. In this instance, we will try to make sure that the cover work is put in the class Team for your child to complete independently. Please accept apologies in advance if this doesn't happen on the odd occasion; staff absence rates are much higher than usual at the moment and, with the best will in the world, some things like this will get missed.
- **If, for any reason, your child cannot access a lesson** and there is no specific work set on the class team instead, then they should use their knowledge organiser folder and spend some time **self-quizzing**. Knowledge organisers can also be found [on the school website](#) if needed. If you would like to check how we ask students to self-quiz, there is a [video on our website](#) that guides students through the process.
- Alternatively, reading a book and/or spending time consolidating learning on **Math Watch** to consolidate their learning. All students have been given individual login details for Maths Watch (their email ending after 'lymm', e.g. for a year 7 student: 20JSmith@lymm; their password is mathslymm). Any issues, email eheels@lymmhigh.org.uk. Once logged in they can navigate to the 'Videos' tab to access videos and interactive questions.
- Whilst we understand parents will want to support their children, **we ask you not to sit and observe lessons**. Teachers are under a lot of pressure already at the moment and some are understandably anxious about having all their lessons beamed live into people's homes all day long, particularly given that they know the provision will not be ideal. Please do bear this in mind if you are tempted to contact school with regard to any of this, and also that Mr Williams has told teachers we will reserve the right to deny access to livestream lessons to individual students if we feel parents are being unreasonable in this regard.
- **Above all, please tell your child not to panic if they are unable to access a lesson for any reason**. They will not get into trouble (teachers are also mindful of the pressures and challenges of home learning at the moment) and just need to use some common sense in how best they can use the time instead.

Thank you in advance for your patience; there will invariably be issues along the way, as this way of working is new to all of us. We will, of course, try to resolve them before they impact on any learning time. Please do not hesitate to get in touch via email if there are any issues and we will try our best to resolve the problems as quick as possible.

Kind regards

Miss Emily Heeks

Remote Learning Coordinator

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