

Dear Year 8 Parents

I hope that you are well and have had a good Christmas break and enjoyed the New Year celebrations. As you are aware, our return to school is not as we expected and although our Year 8 young people have had quite a lot of experience of remote learning, I wanted to make sure that you (and they) have all the information you need. Please be aware that the outline below is subject to change dependent on direction from the Government, Department for Education or Local Authority.

As outlined in the table below, Year 8 will be remote learning from Tuesday 5 January until Friday 15 January 2021 with a planned return to school and face-to-face learning from Monday 18 January 2021.

Tuesday 5 January until Friday 8 January 2021	Remote learning	Live lessons where possible
Monday 11 January until Friday 15 January 2021	Remote Learning	Live lessons every lesson
Monday 18 January	Return to school	Classroom based provision

Remote learning will take place in line with the normal school timetable. The day will begin with a remote Tutor Time via Teams which will focus on checking-in with young people from both a pastoral and academic perspective. Pupils should then complete work for each lesson as it appears on their timetable. This will be set via Show My Homework by 8.30am each day where possible and at the very latest by the beginning of the set lesson. Please also encourage your young person to access their school email as this is the other way we will communicate with them. Young people may then be invited to attend Teams (Live) lessons. These are not expected but may take place for Year 8 during the week of 5 January but should take place each lesson from Monday 11 January when registers of attendance will be taken. The teacher will not necessarily be on Teams with the class for the whole lesson, but the live lesson can be used to check in with the young people, explain any key information as well as the tasks that they will be completing for that lesson, answer any questions and check understanding. Homework will not be set for Key Stage 3 whilst remote learning is taking place. The table below provides an overview.

Daily plan	
8.30am	Remote Tutor Time
8.45am – 3pm (with breaks at the normal times for break and lunch)	Lessons according to the normal timetable
	Work set and submitted via Show My Homework

In terms of the Year 8 exams planned to take place during the week of 11 January, these will not take place until at least 25 January but we will do all we can for these to take place during Term 3 although this will largely depend on how things develop in terms of the planned mass testing. We are working hard to establish how this will work for Hardenhuish and will keep you informed of how these plans develop and when we are able to reschedule the exams.

I hope that the first couple of weeks go well for you and your young person and if you have any concerns or questions at all, please contact their Tutor, Mr Peake, Learning Manager (hjp@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk) or Mrs Loft, Pastoral Manager (sjl@hardenhuish.wilts.sch.uk).

Kind regards and take care.

Lisa Percy
Headteacher