

Moorside High School
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www.moorsidehigh.net
Headteacher Mr S N Clarke

26 June 2020
Dear Parent/Guardian

As you will be aware the Government have said that they want all students returning to full time education from September, but as yet have provided no further guidance on how we will do that. We are told that we will have further guidance in the next two weeks. However, we look forward to the day when we can welcome all our students back and get back to some resemblance of normal. We are busy planning for September and devising different plans for different scenarios.

I am pleased to say that the face to face meetings with our Year 10 students are working well and I think both students and staff are happy to be back in school. It is pleasing that 77% of our Year 10 students have returned, which is well above the picture nationally. I also want to say "thank you" to parents for supporting their children at home and I am encouraged by the e-mail communication that is happening between students and teachers.

We are currently looking at developing Microsoft Office 365 as a learning platform which we can use in the long-term future. As part of this platform we are trialling Microsoft Teams to facilitate some online learning. As well as building the infrastructure to allow us to use this tool, it does rely on children having an internet connection, a suitable digital device at home and access to their school e-mail address. Whilst it is early days we do want to make sure that come September we have something else to offer students besides the work we are setting on our website.

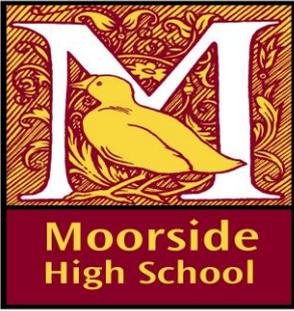
On that basis we are going to trial some online Team meetings for Option subjects with our Year 10 students next week. By having Year 10 in school we have been able to re-issue some e-mail passwords for students who have forgotten them.

Option A: Tuesday 9.00am (1 hour)
Option B: Tuesday 1.00pm (1 hour)
Option C: Thursday 9.00am (1 hour)
ICT/RE: Thursday 11.00am (1 hour)
ICT/RE: Thursday 1.00pm (1 hour)

Students have been or will be told about these meetings in their face to face meetings in school. In the first instance we want these sessions to be drop in sessions where the Options subject teacher will be available to answer questions about the work that your child has been set on the school website. They will not be expected to stay the full hour so long as they feel they have received the support they wanted. Students will not be able to hear or see each other but can ask questions through the chat option. They will all be able to hear the teacher. I have attached instructions for students on how to download Teams on their computer, how to join the meeting and how to ask questions.



Engage and Achieve



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This is very much a trial, however, I do see that we will be able to roll this out to other year groups in the near future. I intend to write to you again next week to update you and let you know the next phase.

If you have any questions then please ring school and SLT will be available to answer any questions you have about this. Thank you for your understanding and your continued support.

Yours sincerely

S Clarke BSc (Hons)
Headteacher

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