



Aston Manor Academy

All different • All equal • All achieving

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HEADTEACHER: JILL SWEENEY



8th January 2021

Dear parent/carer,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for the support that you have provided to your child/children over the last week, as we moved the whole school into online learning following the national school closures that were announced on Monday 4th January. I hope that, whether through Firefly or live Teams lessons, you have felt supported through these first few days.

I am now writing to inform you that as a school, we will be implementing some changes to our current provision, to ensure that children are not over-whelmed, but still manage to access the education that they deserve and expect. From Wednesday 13th January, we will move to a new timetable. Students will have three face to face lessons every day, each lasting 90 minutes. Lessons will begin at 10.00 in the morning and finish at 3.30pm. Between each lesson there will be a 30-minute break to allow students the time to finish any outstanding work from that lesson, take a comfort break and to ensure they have some time to concentrate on their mindfulness and wellbeing. During the 90-minute lessons, there will be dedicated application times where students will be able to complete tasks, and then teachers will be able to provide feedback.

Students will still be expected to register with their form tutor at 8.45 via email, and tutors may well ring after this if a student has not registered, to check on their well-being and to ensure they are able to access all of the online learning. Calls will also be made if students are not engaging with on-line lessons. Between 9.00 and 10.00, there will also be activities shared on Firefly that focus on elements of the curriculum dealing with physical and mental well-being. We strongly urge students to engage with these activities as we know that these are crucial in maintaining students' health and well-being during any extended periods out of school. We will also communicate with students via their Head of Year, a specific time in which a year group assembly will take place. Again, this is something all students should attend as it will help students feel less isolated and part of the school community.

The government announced today that schools should be providing 5 hours of online provision to students. We are confident that through the online lessons being delivered, tasks set through our Firefly platform and the daily pastoral support, Aston Manor students will receive a broad and balanced curriculum that is the best we can provide, and that meets these government expectations. I would like to thank you once more for your support during these difficult times and welcome any questions or concerns that you may have.

Yours sincerely

N Turner
Deputy Headteacher

Z Jones
AHT/ Responsible for Teaching and Learning

