

25 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Please do take the time over the next few days to check out the school website and YouTube channel where you will find lots of useful information to support with remote learning. There is a new document called Remote Education Provision – Information for Parents <https://johnwillmottschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Remote-Education-Provision-Parents-Guidance.pdf>. This document answers the frequently asked questions from parents and will address any queries that you may have. Don't forget that there are also helpful guides to using Show My Homework, resetting passwords and accessing Microsoft Office for free.

Thank you for your patience as we have been developing our remote provision to include live teaching for Year 11. This will be coming on stream next week. We have taken some time to ensure that as many students as possible could access learning in this way as well establishing the provision on Show My Homework. Please remember also that all Year 11 students were issued with the revision guides and workbooks during the summer of Year 10 which can also be used to support learning at home.

All students should have a home learning book. This is an A4 exercise book that they can use to record any of their remote learning in. We appreciate that many students may have already filled these books so you will receive a text message early next week asking you to indicate if you would like another blank book posted home.

I am pleased to say that we have now issued FSM meal vouchers and these will continue to be issued until the end of this half term. If you have recently successfully applied for free school meals but not yet received a voucher please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk and someone will be in touch with you.

Form tutors, key pastoral and inclusion staff are continuing with their weekly wellbeing calls to all students. Staff should be able to answer any of your queries or direct you to areas of the website where you will find the solution to any difficulty. Please be aware that these calls will be made from a withheld number. Staff will make two attempts to contact you each week and leave a message explaining who they are and the purpose of their call. If you miss their call but still do need to speak with them, please email the enquiry address and your message will be passed onto them. Please bear in mind that staff are delivering lessons in school to some students as well as delivering lessons on our remote learning platform. It may therefore take some time for them to return your call. If the matter is urgent, please ring the school reception and your call will be directed to someone who can help.

We have had some difficulty contacting parents in the last few weeks because of changed phone numbers and email addresses. If you have changed your contact details please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk and update us. We have many important messages to deliver, and we use text messages and emails several times a week to get as much useful information to you as possible.

We have updated the information regarding support agencies which can be found at this link. I would recommend you take a look at Kooth at www.kooth.com where you will find a range of useful resources to support young people.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs T Peters
Headteacher**