



Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, despite understanding the rationale for this latest lockdown, we are extremely disappointed not to have our pupils with us every day. We pray for a speedy return to school and normal life in general.

This letter outlines the plan from next week going forward. We are currently working on a lockdown until the end of February, but given the past year, our plan aims to deliver as normal a curriculum as possible, albeit online.

These are the key plans going forward:

- From Monday 11th January, all pupils will follow their normal timetable.
- Teachers will, for most or all lessons, have face to face contact with pupils either via Teams or Zoom.
- There is a Help Page on the school website with all the information you might need, from Times of the Day or Subject information to links to St Martin's Online.
- Pupils will be able to access online learning via St Martin's Online (Sharepoint), via email, Teams and Zoom. There is a subject help sheet on the Help Page.

The expectation is that all pupils will, with their usual break and lunchtimes, be working from 9am to 3pm. There may also be additional homework as usual. Lessons however will be planned to last around 50 minutes in order to give pupils comfort breaks, time for pupils to access the next lesson etc. We will no doubt tweak these arrangements after testing and feedback.

Technology issues:

- We realise that not all pupils will have easy access to technology.
- As with the last lockdown, we have a limited number of laptops that we can lend to pupils.
- Many mobile data providers are offering free access for students – click here for more information <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/internet-access>
- If any pupil cannot access suitable IT or internet access, then please contact the school so we can support you.

For pupils struggling, or not engaging with their work, we have a team of people in school who can support. Any pupils not attending their online lessons will be contacted by the school.

Saint Martin's will be open every day as usual, with staff not just delivering lessons but looking after key worker and vulnerable pupils. Therefore, if you need to contact us, receive support to help your child or seek advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Wright
Principal