

**Sir John Talbot's School**

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8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year to you all. Just a short bulletin this week as I am sure you are aware things have been very busy with Sixth Form following the recent government announcements. I would like to keep you informed as much as possible about how we are responding to the changing picture and as such will be sending messages a little more frequently.

Wellbeing of students

This is paramount in our thinking and response. We are trying hard to maintain contact with students but if you have concerns that you think students are not making us aware of, please get in touch with me. Mrs Welch, School Counsellor, is also offering online meetings at this time for those that may want to talk about concerns, she can be contacted directly via email: welch.m@sjt.mmat.org.uk

Form time

Currently form tutors are running this Tuesday and Friday from 8:50am. One of those sessions will be focused on important wellbeing messages every week as usual.

Year 12

Live lessons commence officially on Monday, 11th January, though some teachers have been trialling sessions this week in addition to setting remote work. Students are being asked to follow their usual timetable as much as possible and continue to consolidate and read around subjects just as they would if they were in school.

Year 13

Live lessons have already started and since this is the second time around for this cohort they seem to be settling well. The important message here is that content of A Levels has not be completed yet and with mocks postponed for the foreseeable future next week will see the start of new content in most subjects so attendance at lessons is crucial.

I am closely monitoring the impact of the current situation on university places and will be advising students as soon as the picture becomes clearer.

Live lessons

This generally means that the teacher will be online at the timetabled time. However, it does not mean that students always be sitting in front of the computer for a full hour or even two hours (lots of us are even more aware now of the impact of having to do this). Where appropriate there will be a live introduction and then tasks set offline. Homework will be set and will be the usual sixth form mix of work to be handed in, consolidation and preparation.

I hope that you find this helpful and I will be in touch soon.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Haycock, Key Stage 5 Lead, Head of Sixth Form
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