



Committed to Excellence

Parent/Carer and Student Questions and Answers - Spring Term 2021 Lockdown

The main thing I am wondering is why the students do not have their cameras on? Surely if cameras are on the students have to make eye contact and concentrate more? I know this is a policy in some other schools and wondering why it is not at John Colet.

Students should be appropriately dressed and in a suitable environment. They are encouraged to have their cameras ON and their microphones muted unless asked to unmute.

Will my child be set homework?

Homework will only be set if it is integral to an upcoming lesson or planned assessment. If you would like further work for your child, please use the resources provided on the [Beyond the Classroom](#) area of the school website.

Please could consideration be given to aligning break and lunchtimes across different year groups during lockdown? This would be far more helpful to parents like myself who are working from home, trying to juggle home and work commitments during lockdown. Having two separate lunchtimes for two children at home is proving very difficult.

Lessons continue to run at the same time as they have since September (see below for timings). Staff and students are used to these timings now and for the students in school we still want them to have staggered break and lunchtimes to allow for greater social distancing.

Could I please ask for some clarification regarding the actual times of the lessons for each year group? There seems to be some confusion around this matter. Are they running the times that they had whilst the school was open before Christmas or are they running the "normal" times that they have done at every other time?

If I could possibly put in my two-pennies, it would be extremely helpful if all years were running the same times for their classes, and therefore stopping for break and lunch and starting each class at the same time.

Lessons continue to run at the same time as they have since September (see below for timings). Staff and students are used to these timings now and for the students in school we still want them to have staggered break and lunchtimes to allow for greater social distancing.

We are very confused as Michael Gove said A Levels aren't going ahead. Are all schools participating in Mock exams? Headmaster's email last night said they would be looking into whether mocks going ahead we haven't had anything official from him today or from the government. Is this definitely happening please confirm. It's too much stress for the students not knowing for sure. Thanks very much.

Mrs Fanchi will contact Year 13 students either today or tomorrow regarding the plans for the Year 13 mock exams which we plan to go ahead with in some form or another.

Will they [VCW students] need their own laptops for online learning within the school?

No. Students will be supplied with a Chromebook to use in school.

Is it possible for year 12 students to be sent a few guidelines regarding the online learning as they haven't done it before.

Please see the FAQ below for some guidelines.

FAQ

Will students follow the normal school day?

Yes.

On Tuesday the school day ends at 1.45pm.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12/13
Registration	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30
Lesson 1	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55
Lesson 2	Break	9.55	9.55	Break	9.55	Break
	10.15	Break	Break	10.15	Break	10.15
Lesson 3	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.15
Lesson 4	Lunch	12.15	12.15	Lunch	12.15	Lunch
	12.45	Lunch	Lunch	12.45	Lunch	12.45
Lesson 5	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
End of Day	2.45	2.45	2.45	2.45	2.45	2.45

Will all lessons be “live”?

It is expected that as many lessons as possible have some “live” input. This can range from the teacher registering the group and setting them tasks, to holding a full live lesson. If a teacher is unable to attend “live”, they will schedule work to be completed and submitted by the students.

Does my child need to attend form time?

Yes. Tutor time is a part of the school learning timetable and student attendance is mandatory.

How does my child login for lessons?

Your child can access all the lessons via their subject Google Classroom. A Google Meet link will be posted by teachers in advance of the lesson. It should look something like this:

The screenshot shows a Google Classroom interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Stream', 'Classwork', 'People', and 'Marks'. Below the tabs is a header for a 'new' class with a class code '7tcm5c'. A red circle highlights the 'Meet link' which is 'https://meet.google.com/lookup/ep2dpysmhj'. Below the header, there is a section for 'Upcoming' with the text 'No work due in soon' and a 'View all' link. To the right, there is a section for 'Communicate with your class here' with options to 'Announce something to your class', 'Create and schedule announcements', and 'Respond to student posts'.

Can I use another platform instead?

No. Google Meet is the most secure one for teachers and students. We are able to monitor who the students are and deal with any inappropriate issues effectively.

What are the expectations of students during “live” learning?

Students should be appropriately dressed and in a suitable environment. They are encouraged to have their cameras ON and their microphones muted unless asked to unmute.

Will my child be set homework?

Homework will only be set if it is integral to an upcoming lesson or planned assessment. If you would like further work for your child, please use the resources provided on the [Beyond the Classroom](#) area of the school website.

What should I do if my child is ill and unable to “attend”?

Please contact the school absence line and their HOY. Addresses for HOY can be found [here](#).

What happens if the technology fails for my child?

Try turning cameras off to see if this improves the connection. Ask your child to post a note in the Stream if you can to explain what is happening. Try to log back in as soon as possible. Students should contact the teacher if they have any issues to explain.

Where can I get more support for Google Classroom?

Links to this [video](#) and this [one](#) may be of use.

Who should I contact for further support?

Lesson issues - Classteacher

Subject issues - Subject Team Leader

Pastoral and welfare issue - Head of Year

All addresses can be found [here](#).