



An All-through Co-operative School  
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Dear Families

Firstly I would like to wish us all a Happy New Year and hope for a much better outlook with this coronavirus in 2021! I find myself having to write to you again today after the government's announcement on Wednesday night. This is a very fast moving pandemic and things are constantly changing, and we will continue to keep you updated with these changes.

As you are probably aware, now all secondary school sites will be closed in the first week of January. In Brent, the new coronavirus cases are so high, that primary sites also are closed. This means that Preston Manor students will not return to school on Monday 4th January, but will be learning remotely. **Our Pre Public Exams (PPEs) for year 11 will not be taking place next week.** I am truly sorry that many students who have missed face to face teaching over the Autumn term, will have to do so again. However, they will continue to have 'live lessons' and continue to learn online. By *staying at home to learn*, they will reduce infection rates and will save lives.

### **Remote Learning for all students**

Remote learning will consist of 'live lessons' with classroom teachers which will be delivered on Zoom or on Google Meets. Teachers will deliver live teaching for the first half of each lesson and will post the links for this on their Google classrooms. Students will then be set further tasks to complete for the remainder of each lesson.

It is very important that your child ***follows their normal school timetable*** so that they can attend all their live lessons across the day. They must **join these lessons on time**, engage in the learning (including keeping their cameras on so they are clearly participating) and ask questions if they need further help or support. They must upload their completed work using the Google classroom platform. Please see the 'Remote Learning' section of the school website for further detail on expectations for students: [Expectations for students](#)

If your child is finding it difficult to access remote learning, they may find this guide helpful: [Remote Learning - Student Guide](#) They can also email their class teacher using their school email address or send a message to them on their Google Classroom. Parents can also communicate issues with remote learning using this email address: [remotelarning@preston-manor.com](mailto:remotelarning@preston-manor.com)

### **Access to Online Devices**

With all students remaining at home for at least the first week of term (4th January - 8th January), it is vital that they are able to access a device other than a smartphone during the school day. If your child meets any of the criteria bullet pointed below, which would restrict them being able to complete their school work remotely, then please contact your child's DSD via email **from Monday 4th January**:

- No access to a device (not including a smartphone)
- Shares a device with more than one sibling who is also self isolating
- No access to a fixed broadband connection

Your DSD's email address is [DSD?@preston-manor.com](mailto:DSD?@preston-manor.com). Simply replace the ? with your child's year group. E.g. Year 7 would be [DSD7@preston-manor.com](mailto:DSD7@preston-manor.com). Once you have contacted us to inform us, we will contact you to arrange for you to collect a loaned school device from school, which your child must bring back when they return to school.

### **On site provision for children of Key [Critical] Workers**

The school will have a provision for children of Key **[Critical] Workers** on site where they will have access to their classrooms online and the online learning. Critical workers are parents/carers whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) response and includes those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors. A more detailed list of critical workers can be found on the DfE website. If you are a Key Critical Worker, you will need to apply for this provision by filling out this google form: [provision application](#). Your child will only be able to attend school once you have received a confirmed email response from the school. This way, we can ensure that staffing is in place to ensure your child will be supported in school. The school will start offering this provision from Tuesday 5th January and will run from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Finally, I will be in touch at the end of next week to let you know if the situation will change for Year 11 and Year 13 (exam groups). What we do know, is the rest of our school community will be working remotely until **at least the 18th January**.

Thank you for your support in looking after each other, reducing the spread of this virus, protecting our NHS and really saving lives. Please stay at home and keep our Brent community safe.

Kind regards,



Beth Kobel  
Headteacher