

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience during this unprecedented time.

Our absolute priority at Freeman's is to ensure that our children, parents and dedicated staff team are as safe as possible and therefore we will only be providing provision for children of critical workers and vulnerable children.

All pupils that are not attending school will be expected to continue learning through the remote learning provision on Google Classroom and via live lessons provided by the teaching staff.

At 9am each day, please ensure your child logs onto Zoom for their morning registration meeting with their teacher and peers. In the meeting, the day's timetable will be discussed and questions about the learning will be answered.

Following the 9am registration meeting, the teaching staff will then host live English lessons.

Maths lessons will either be delivered live or recorded and uploaded onto Google Classroom. Details of times for these lessons will be emailed to you by your child's teacher. Please ensure your child is present during these sessions and that you follow the guidance attached to this letter.

After lunch, there will be an **afternoon registration meeting** with their teacher and peers which your child will need to attend. The afternoon's learning will be discussed in this meeting and any questions about the work can be asked. Again, the timings will be shared with you by your child's class teacher. During the afternoon, your child will be expected to complete the work set by the teacher in foundation subjects such as History, Geography or Art as examples.

Work will need to be submitted to the teacher after each lesson or at the end of the day as specified by your child's class teacher. Children are expected to attend the registration meetings and live lessons and attendance will be monitored by the teaching staff.

Please read the remote learning guidelines (attached to this letter) carefully to ensure that your child is accessing live lessons safely and appropriately. Your child's class teacher will email you with times and dates of when the remote learning lessons will take place. You must reply to this email in order for your child to be accepted onto the Zoom call.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Hull

Headteacher



REMOTE MEETINGS AND 'LIVE' TEACHING GUIDELINES

Remote Meetings and 'Live' Teaching – Acceptable Use Guidance

Remote meetings and 'live' teaching (in this document referred to as 'live sessions') have been identified as an additional way of delivering virtual learning and conducting pastoral calls (with a child) during this COVID-19 period. The schools / academies within Peterborough Diocese Education Trust (the Trust) are providing live sessions to ensure teaching and learning can continue and calls can be made to check on pupils' welfare but, for many, this is a new experience and **everyone involved in live sessions must remember that the usual school / academy protocols still apply**. We are providing this guidance to ensure that participants are clear about the expectations on them.

Parents / carers:

- Parental / carer approval must be given before pupils may participate in live sessions.
- If a child is taking part in live sessions, the parent / carer will receive an email invitation from the teacher (this will be at least 24 hours in advance for a pastoral call) which will include the dates and times of the live sessions. If it is an invitation for lessons, it will also state the end times. With regards to 'live' teaching, this email will cover a 14-day period. **Parents / carers must reply to the email, as they will need to confirm to the teacher that supervision will be provided at that time (as detailed below)**. Parents / carers do, of course, have the option to decline the offer of their child participating, however, the Trust strongly encourages participation.
- A parent / carer, or another appropriate adult, must be present in the room with the child for the duration of live sessions.
- Parents / carers must identify a suitable location for their child to use for live sessions, for example a living room or dining area. Bedrooms should not be used.
- Parents / carers should ensure that, as far as possible, distractions are removed, including pets and siblings, and there is quiet.
- Parents / carers should make every effort to support live sessions by ensuring their child is suitably dressed, prepared and ready to learn / engage. The expectation to wear school uniform during 'live' teaching is at the discretion of each individual school / academy.
- Parents / carers should familiarise themselves with the expectations of pupils set down in the school's / academy guidance (based on these Trust guidelines) and ensure their child adheres to them.
- Parents / carers are responsible for ensuring that the privacy of other family members is maintained during live sessions.
- Lessons delivered 'live' are still lessons and pupils are expected to present themselves and behave appropriately. High standards of behaviour are expected for live sessions, just as they are in the classroom.
- Parents / carers should not use these live sessions as a means for communication between parents / carers and teachers. Such communication should be via email, in the first instance, in the usual way.
- Parents / carers must not record or share these live sessions, nor comment on public forums about individual teachers or other children.
- Parents / carers should be aware that the school / academy may record lessons for:
 - future use; and / or
 - quality control; and / or
 - assessment purposes; and /or
 - safeguarding purposes.
- Parents / carers should read and familiarise themselves with the attached guidance from National Online Safety.

Teachers and staff members:

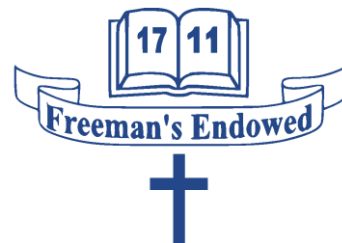
It is expected that when conducting 'live' teaching, support staff will be responsible for the technical aspects enabling the teacher to teach.

- Teachers will ensure that only pupils who have received parental / carer approval participate in live sessions.
- Teachers will ensure that they show pupils how to access live sessions and that they understand the protocol and expectations when participating in live sessions.

- Live sessions must only take place between the hours of [9.00am and 3.20pm] (core school / academy hours).
- Teachers conducting live sessions must email the parents / carers of the respective pupil to inform them of when the sessions will take place and, in the case of lessons, when they will end. This should be done at least 24 hours prior to the live session if it is a pastoral call. With regards to 'live' teaching, the email will cover a 14-day period. Parents / carers should acknowledge the confirmation – *see above*.
- Teachers will only proceed with a 'live' lesson if there is a minimum of 4 pupils present (including those pupils on-site).
- Teachers will ensure that, when making pastoral calls, there is a minimum of 2 teachers present and that the child's parent / carer is together with the child throughout the duration of the call.
- Teachers will only use school /academy approved platforms for live sessions, namely Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google Classroom.
- Teachers will only use these platforms (Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google Classroom) with their school / academy provided email.
- Teachers will **contact parents and pupils through school / academy email only**.
- Teachers will obtain the Headteacher's consent for any pastoral call.
- 'Live' teaching will only take place in accordance with the phased approach adopted by the school / academy in line with Trust expectations.
- Before hosting live sessions on Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google Classroom, teachers must have accessed the school's / academy's CPD and have familiarised themselves with all the tools available for them to use in order to enhance the security and privacy of their session.
- **When using Zoom**, teachers will ensure / undertake the following:
 - **Use the latest version of Zoom** – they will ensure they are using the latest updated version of Zoom, currently – January 2020.
 - **Set up a meeting ID** – they will not use their personal ID (PMI) to host. Instead, they will use a randomly generated meeting ID. (*To do this, click on 'Schedule' and make sure 'use personal ID' is not selected*). Also they will ensure a password is required to enter the meeting. *Make sure that the password is only shared to access the meeting privately i.e. via email.*
 - **Mute attendees on joining** – camera and microphone.
 - **Lock the meeting** – once the meeting has started and all participants joined, the meeting will be locked. This means that nobody else can join the meeting even if they have the meeting ID. *This can be found in meeting settings.*
 - **Disable private chat / content** - Zoom offers the ability for participants to chat / message each other privately. This option should be disabled in meeting settings. The ability for participants to share content in meeting settings can also be disabled.
 - **Restrict Screen sharing** so that participants can't take control and share content with the rest of the group.
 - **Monitor participants** – Zoom allows for a participant's video and audio to be turned off by tapping on either option in the participant menu. Teachers will ensure they know how to remove unwanted or disruptive participants as well (*found in the participants' menu*) should they need to.
 - **Use the waiting room** – this means participants have to wait in a virtual waiting room before joining the meeting. A personalised message can be added to this area, perhaps setting ground rules. It also allows the person in charge of the meeting to check who is in the waiting room before allowing them into the meeting.
 - **No personal information is to be mentioned.**
 - **Everybody understands that the meeting and its link must not be published on Social media.**

Pupils:

- Treat your live sessions as you would any other lesson. Be on time and be prepared.
- Use the bathroom and eat before (not during) your session.
- If it is to be a lesson, be ready to learn and make sure you have class resources, pen / pencil / ruler / exercise book at hand.
- Make sure you are in a suitable location; your device is charged (or plugged in) and that you are suitably dressed, prior to the beginning of each session. Your school / academy may have asked you to wear school uniform.
- Keep your device on a secure surface, such as a table.
- Check your camera and microphone are working, prior to the start of the session.



- If possible, you should wear a headset (ideally with a microphone) but this isn't essential.
- Remember to behave as you would in school / the academy and abide by the school's / academy's *Internet Acceptable Usage Policy* – and the school's / academy's behaviour expectations.
- Chat functions should only be used to ask questions and to answer teacher questions as directed by the teacher.
- Raise your hand, if you have a question and use hand gestures to show understanding such as thumbs up or touching your ear for audio issues.
- Do not record or take photos of your classmates or teachers during a session.
- Listen, focus on the lesson and learn.
- Avoid distractions such as electronic devices.
- Mobile phones should not be in the room during the session.
- Respect your teacher, your fellow learners and yourself by doing your best, just as you would in class.
- Make sure you end the session as soon as your teacher indicates to do so.
- These rules are designed to help keep you safe and, if they are not followed, school /academy sanctions will be applied and your parents / carers may be contacted.
- **Remember your school / the academy is putting these sessions on for your benefit but not everyone who tries to contact you online has your interests at heart. If you have any worries or concerns about something that has happened to you online, please speak to your parents email your class teacher.**