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19 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Student Engagement on TEAMS - Spring 2021

I hope this finds you well.

As we continue with remote learning during this national lockdown I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership and to share some further information with you regarding our remote learning provision during this Spring lockdown.

Each school should have a designated **Remote Learning Lead**; this person is a senior member of staff who will have the responsibility for ensuring that remote learning provision is offered according to the protocols of the school and ensuring the quality of the provision is strong. This person will also co-ordinate the responses to parent and student questions regarding remote learning. As part of my role, I am the Remote Learning Lead for St. Michael's.

As you are aware, last week the 'chat' function on TEAMS was disabled for all students. This was a decision taken by the Trust to allow further safeguarding measures to be put in place, so that as individual schools, we can more closely monitor the use of the student 'chat' function. This function will be up and running again from 18 January and if any student accounts still have the function disabled after this date, please contact the Academy and we will ensure that it is re-instated.

The monitoring of student engagement on TEAMS is one aspect of our remote learning provision that we have looked at developing further since the first lockdown last March.

In school we have in place a system where staff monitor lesson attendance on a daily basis, if a student is not in attendance this is an absence and will be followed-up accordingly. Additionally, we have looked at the engagement of students in lesson whilst on TEAMS and the quality of work produced and teaching staff will complete an engagement spreadsheet based on the criteria below:

The descriptors that staff are working with to assess engagement are as follows:

A: All work completed to a high standard.

B: Some work completed; work is of a good standard.

C: A limited amount of work completed; work is of a satisfactory standard.

D: Very little work completed; work is of a poor standard.

N: Non-engagement



To further support your child's learning we will inform you on a regular basis of any lack of engagement on TEAMS allowing you as parents to act swiftly to help your child's learning during this national lockdown.

Information regarding remote learning will also be added to our website under the banner on the homepage called 'Remote Learning'. Here you will find all the latest information regarding TEAMS learning; the weekly staff rotas so that you can see which day your child's teacher will be in school and we are developing a video link where I will share important messages with you all on a weekly basis.

Once again, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy should you need any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clare M Humble', written in a cursive style.

Clare M Humble
Vice Principal