



Colton Hills Community School

Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.

Headteacher
Mrs A Stephens

**Colton Hills
Community School**
Jeremy Road
Wolverhampton
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Dear parent/carer,

I do hope that this letter finds you and your family well.

Last week you will have read in our bulletin that we delivered 900 lessons live on teams with 74% of our students present. This week we are pleased that the number of students online has risen to 78%. Whilst this is an improvement and I appreciate many of the challenges, I remain very concerned about the number of students who are still failing to log on.

As a parent, I fully understand the pressures that may be in your home due to your own work commitments, because you have other children and a whole host of things going on. However, we learnt a lot from the March 2020 lockdown and students that did not consistently access work fell behind in their learning and suffered a tremendous amount of learning loss. Therefore, we ask for your full support in ensuring students engage with their remote learning.

If you are genuinely unable to make sure that your child attends their remote learning lessons, then can I urge you to contact their Head of House for support in the first instance:

House	Head of House	Email
Turing	L Heeley	lheeley@coltonhills.co.uk
Kahlo	H Willetts	hwilletts@coltonhills.co.uk
Tull	C Ireland	cireland@coltonhills.co.uk
Curie	A Esty	aesty@coltonhills.co.uk

A Reminder of Our Expectations for Remote Learning

- Lessons will be set on TEAMS every day and students are expected to attend them all
- Pupils should follow their timetable using their online calendar
- All lessons will follow the existing scheme of work
- There will be a mixture in the style of delivery
- Registers will be taken for every lesson and absences will be followed up
- Teachers will provide feedback weekly

Our remote learning plan has been made with our pupils and their families in mind. We believe that this strategy will work best for the children at our school.

Expectations from Parents and Carers

- Make sure that they are up and dressed ready for the start of their school day, preferably sitting in a quiet place with their laptop, pens and paper
- Ensure that your child has access to a quiet space or can utilise a set of headphones whilst they are working virtually
- Check in on your child as regularly as you can
- Look to see if they are answering questions and if they are involved
- If you can listen to the lesson for a few minutes then ask your child a question about the lesson it really will help them to stay alert



GCSE, AS and A Level Examinations

Last week I informed you of the Government's decision to cancel the exams due to take place this summer. As promised, I am writing to you today to provide you with an update on this situation and to provide parents/carers and students who were due to take exams to have their say. On Friday, the exam regulator who are consulting with the Department for Education, published its consultation on alternative arrangements for the awarding of GCSEs, AS and A levels this summer. A separate consultation on proposals for vocational and technical qualifications has also been published. The document is weighty and there is not a final decision on what will be happening as yet.

In short, what is being proposed is:

- Students will continue with their education throughout this academic year
- Students will be assessed by their teachers in the period beginning in May into early June
- Teachers will submit grades to the exam boards by mid-June
- External quality assurance by the exam boards will be ongoing throughout June
- Results will be issued to students once the quality assurance process is complete, most likely early July
- Student appeals could be submitted immediately following the issue of results and would first be considered by schools and colleges

The [consultation document](#) provides more detail of these arrangements, on which they seek your views. A summary of the proposed changes can be found on page 28 onwards. It is important that you have your say, if you wish to do so. The consultation is open for two weeks and ends on Friday 29th January at 23.45pm. You can respond by completing the online survey [HERE](#)

In the meantime, it remains important that students continue to engage with their remote learning and that we avoid any speculation until the final decision is reached.

Free School Meals

We are moving to the voucher scheme this week as per the government announcement. We will only be able to send vouchers via email. **If your child would normally be in receipt of free school meals please could you provide us with your preferred email address for the voucher. You can do this by completing the form [HERE](#)**

I enter my third week at Colton Hills with a considerable amount of pride around what we have accomplished. Despite so many uncertainties, I am left in no doubt about the incredible levels of care and commitment that we have in our community, for our young people.

We will continue to support them and ensure that every single one of them can be the best that they can be.

Mrs A Stephens - Headteacher

