

Dormers Wells High School

MATHS AND COMPUTING SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Headteacher: Ms R. Walsh B.A.Hons M.Sc.

Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 3HZ
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14th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. We recognise that this has been a very difficult and challenging time for everyone, and we know that many families have been greatly impacted by the coronavirus situation, socially, emotionally, and economically. Our thoughts go out to every one of you.

We have all had to adapt to new ways of living and working, so I would like to take this opportunity to say what an amazing job you have done and continue to do, supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time. I have been reviewing last week's engagement data from Microsoft Teams and I am very impressed with how many of our young people are taking their education seriously, joining their teachers during live lessons and completing all the work set. Well done to everyone!

Can I remind all parents that our expectation is that all students attend all remote lessons, including assemblies. **This is not optional.** If you would like to find out more about our remote learning program, please click this link: [DWHS Remote Learning](#)

Year 11: Virtual Parents' Evening

Our annual Y11 parents evening will take place on Thursday 21st January. This will be a virtual parents' evening and you will receive further instructions in the coming days about how to book appointments with your son/daughter's teachers.

Year 11 & 13 Exams: CANCELLED

As you may have heard, the formal A level and Year 11 GCSE exams have been cancelled and an updated CAG (Centre Assessed Grade) system will be introduced. Disappointingly, there have been no further update to schools regarding the next steps.

What we can be sure about from our experience of CAGs last year is that the work your son/daughter complete ahead of live lessons, during live lessons and for home learning after live lessons is more important than ever. Once guidance is issued nationally, we will share more information on how we will approach this over the next few months.

So, keep preparing for the future by continuing to work hard in and outside of lessons!!

FREE School Meals

On, Wednesday 13th January, the government announced their intention to revert to the National Voucher Scheme. If your child is normally in receipt of free school meals, from the 18th January the



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school will provide you with a £30 voucher as soon as we receive confirmation that the voucher system has become live. The £30 voucher will be the equivalent to two weeks' worth of free school meals. The voucher system will run from week beginning 18th January to week beginning 8th February. The government have **not** announced their intention to provide vouchers during the half term holiday. A member of the school team will be in contact with you in the coming days to arrange the next steps.

Testing

We have now set up our Coronavirus Testing Centre in the main hall. I am very grateful to Mrs Oghra and Mrs Mahoney who have led on this. All staff have been trained and many students and staff have already been tested. Thankfully, all test results have been negative! The plan is to test all students when school re-opens, therefore if you have not already given your consent to testing please make sure you complete the form in the coming days. The form will be sent out again via a MyEd message early next week.

Teachers and staff calling home.

Staff will be calling home to check in on your child's learning. This call will register as an unknown caller. If staff leave a message, they will follow up with another call please answer as the staff will want to discuss your child's engagement in the remote learning.

Support with learning resources

Some of you have asked for exercise books to record or write some responses. Whilst we are encouraging the use of online submissions, we are more than happy to provide any students with exercise books, if they so wish.

Below is our program of collection for each year group.

Students are to enter the school via the Dormers Wells Lane entrance at the times indicated in the table below. Students should make their way from Dormers Wells Lane entrance to the Dining Hall to collect their books. Students should then check with their teachers if they have anything to collect. Please do not come to school if you do not have anything to collect. If you are isolating or have tested positive for Covid19, remember you must NOT come to school for any reason.

Students are not required to attend in uniform and should catch up on any 'live lesson' work afterwards.

Year 10	Friday, 15th January	10am – 10.30am: 10AL / 10DE 10.30am – 11am: 10DM / 10GC 11am – 11.30am: 10PC / 10PD
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		11.30am – 12pm: 10SL / 10SM
Year 12	Friday, 15 th January	12pm– 12.30pm: SDU / SFC / SGU 12.30pm – 1pm: SHB / SJA / SJB / SME 1pm – 1.30pm: SPT / SRO / SWR
Year 9	Tuesday, 19th January	10.30am – 11am: 9AM / 9FN / 9HN 11am – 11.30am: 9KX / 9ML / 9MU 11.30am – 12pm: 9SN / 9TE
Year 8	Tuesday, 19 th January	12.15pm – 12.45pm: 8HD / 8HR 12.45pm – 1.15pm: 8HS / 8HY 1.15pm – 1.45pm: 8JN / 8PL 1.45pm – 2.15pm: 8SR / 8SY
Year 7	Tuesday, 19th January	2.30pm – 3pm: 7AZ / 7BG 3pm– 3.30pm : 7DA / 7JS 3.30pm – 4pm: 7KA / 7MB 4pm– 4.30pm: 7MG / 7PE

Keyworkers, children with an ECHP and those that meet the vulnerable definition set by the Government. Presently the school remains open for all children of Key Workers, children with an ECHP and those that meet the vulnerable definition set by the Government. If you fall under this category and require a place for your son or daughter, please contact us by sending a request via the My Ed app and one of our team will contact you.

Where to turn to for help

It's okay to not be okay.

We all need someone to talk to sometimes. If you feel overwhelmed, at risk of abuse or experiencing financial need, there are people you can call on for support.

Organisation	Contact Details
CALM - If you identify as male, call the campaign against living miserably Available 5pm–midnight every day	Telephone 0800 58 58 58
Helplines partnership, directory of UK helplines	https://helplines.org/helplines/
Kooth - Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people.	https://www.kooth.com/



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Available Monday - Friday, 12pm – 10pm, Saturday - Sunday 6 - 10pm	
Mind - Call, text or email for signposting to support in your area	Telephone 0300 123 3393 Text 86463 Email info@mind.org.uk (link sends e-mail)
Papyrus - Under 35 and struggling with suicidal feelings, or concerned about a young person who might be struggling. Open weekdays 10am-10pm, weekends and bank holidays 2-10pm	Telephone 0800 068 4141 Text 07786 209 697 Email pat@papyrus-uk.org (link sends e-mail)
Somali Helpline Advice, family support, counselling, information and signposting Available Monday-Friday 4-9 pm	0800 542 6855
Samaritans - To talk about anything that is upsetting you Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year	116 123 (free from any phone) Email jo@samaritans.org (link sends e-mail)
SANEline - If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else. Available 4.30pm–10.30pm every day	Telephone 0300 304 7000
Shout - In a crisis? Anxious? Worried? Stressed?	Text 'shout' for 24/7 text service support 85258
Switchboard - If you identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, you can call Switchboard, open 10am– 10pm every day. Phone operators all identify as LGBT+	Telephone 0300 330 0630 Email chris@switchboard.lgbt (link sends e-mail) Webchat https://switchboard.lgbt/help/ (link is external)
The Mix (under 25) Open Sunday-Friday 2pm–11pm	Telephone 0808 808 4994 Webchat www.themix.org.uk

We want to continue to work closely with all our students and their families. In this very different time, we have found strength in working together.

Yours faithfully,

Ms R Walsh
Headteacher



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