



## **Abingdon Prep School Remote Learning Information for pupils & parents in Years 7 & 8**

**Date: 4 January 2021**

### **How long will my son need to remain at home and learn remotely?**

In line with current government guidance, all schools have moved to remote learning until the end of February half term at the earliest. Should the guidance alter and these dates change, we will let you know.

### **If I am a key worker can my son come into school during this time?**

Yes, if you are a key worker under the [government definition](#). Please contact Rachel Pairman ([rachel.pairman@abingdonprepr.org.uk](mailto:rachel.pairman@abingdonprepr.org.uk)) if you have not already done so to confirm that your son will be in school as the son of a key worker.

### **If I am not a key worker but would like my son to be in school can he come in?**

No, only the children of key workers and other specified groups (whose parents would be contacted directly by the school) are able to be in school at present.

### **Will my son need to follow his normal timetable?**

Yes. It is essential that your son follows his normal timetable in full and accesses each teacher's zoom details via Google Classroom.

He should dial in promptly at the start of each lesson so that he does not miss key teaching points.

### **Will my son need to zoom into form times (am and pm)?**

Yes. Your son should dial into his form teacher's zoom for registration and form time every morning at 8.30am.

For afternoon registration at 13.20, your son will be registered by the teacher of that lesson. It is essential that he dials into their zoom promptly.

**Will all lessons be live zoomed?**

Yes, wherever possible. Teachers will start each lesson, teach live and remain on the zoom for the duration of the lesson in all academic lessons. In physical and creative arts subjects, teachers will start the lesson and be available throughout. There may be exceptions where a teacher cannot live zoom if, for example, they are unwell and absent from school. A suitable cover lesson arrangement will be made in that case.

Boys need to ensure that their cameras are turned on during the lesson unless told otherwise by the teacher.

**Can my son opt not to attend some lessons?**

No. It is essential that your son dials into every lesson.

**Can my son opt to do the work at a time that suits him rather than follow the timetable?**

No. The lessons will be taught live rather than pre-recorded so it is essential your son follows his timetable to allow him the opportunity to ask questions and interact with his teachers.

**What if my son has technical difficulties in terms of accessing Zoom or Google Classroom?**

Please contact George Moore, Information Systems and IT Co-ordinator via the main school office number or by email ([george.moore@abingdonprep.org.uk](mailto:george.moore@abingdonprep.org.uk)).

Please also ensure that your son notifies the relevant teacher as soon as possible.

**What equipment does my son need at home?**

Your son will need access to a personal device, his text books and exercise books, his full pencil case and plain paper. It might be useful if he has access to a printer. Teachers will specify any equipment needed for their lessons in advance if appropriate and it is essential that your son organises himself so that he is ready for the lesson. Form teachers will assist in form times each morning to remind the boys what they need.

If you have not been able to collect your son's resources from school on Monday morning between 10am and midday, please contact the school office if you wish to arrange to do so.

**What if my son is ill and cannot take part in remote learning?**

Please contact the school office and your son's form teacher as you would if your son were in school. If your son has Covid symptoms, please also notify Craig Williams and Rachel Pairman.

Teachers will support your son in catching up once he feels better in the same way they would if he were absent from being in school.

**Will Other Half activities be happening for Y7&8 during remote learning?**

Where possible and meaningful, Other Half activities will happen online for Y7&8 during this time (including for those in key worker school). Teachers who run each activity will contact your sons directly if they are able to run an online version of their club. For sport related clubs, this will not be possible.

**Will individual music lessons and LAMDA lessons take place?**

VMTs will offer online lessons and our LAMDA coach will be in touch with parents individually. Those in key worker school will be able to have their 1:1 lessons in person, following the current stringent safety guidelines.

**Will 8R Scholarship mocks go ahead as planned?**

Stefan Gerrard will contact parents and pupils to confirm arrangements for mock exams.

**If my son is in school because I am a key worker, will he need his own device and earphones?**

Yes

**If my son is in school because I am a key worker, will he be with the teachers who normally teach him?**

The boys will be in the same classroom as the teacher who is teaching him though the lesson will happen online so that all boys are learning alongside each other whether at home or at school.

**If my son is in school because I am a key worker, will he socialise with other pupils?**

All boys in Y7 & 8 key worker school will have playtimes in one designated area of the playground together and will eat lunch together. They will also have sports lessons on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon collectively. During lesson time, however, they will only be with boys from their own class/set, if there are any within key worker school.

**If my son is in school because I am a key worker, will he need any sports equipment?**

He should bring in anything he normally would for sport but continue to wear his sports kit into school each day as for last term.