



DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

Parent & Carer Bulletin

Monday 16 November 2020

Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support with the current situation. As we have had more students self-isolating, it has been encouraging to see how well students have used Microsoft Teams to access lessons and complete work. We are also grateful for the feedback on Microsoft Teams use and we have produced some answers to frequently asked questions later in this bulletin.

We have also continued with a programme of support for our Year 11 students as they prepare for next summer. On Thursday, they received sessions on effective revision and revision timetables, as well as resources to help them revise at home. Students who accessed the sessions remotely from home will be able to collect these resources when they return to school.

Finally, thank you to the staff who - despite the on-going challenges - have given their time so freely, enabling us to put together such a comprehensive after-school Period 4 programme, which starts next week.

Full School Information

- Mr Loftus has sent out information regarding the Period 4 after school programme for Year 11 students. This can be found at this [link](#).
- We will be hosting a Virtual Careers Fair on Tuesday 8 December and further details will follow. The latest Careers Update from Mrs Mortimer, Co-ordinator of CEIAG can be accessed [here](#), together with a copy of the latest LMI Humber [Newsletter](#).
- The summer 2021 [exam season](#) has been confirmed as taking place between 26 May and 2 July 2021. Usually, the Joint Council for Qualifications sets a 'contingency day' in case of disruption to exams during the exam series and, to date, this has not been set; however, we will communicate this once it is decided. Around Easter, students will receive an individual timetable. Results days are 24 August for AS/A levels and 27 August for GCSEs.
- As a result of government restrictions, Drury Sports has temporarily closed; however, uniform can still be ordered [online](#) at www.drurysports.com and items will be delivered to you at home. In addition, school ties can continue to be [ordered](#) from the school website and are then available for collection from the school's reception.
- Students are able to access e books from the [VLEbooks platform](#); a guide to the resources available can be accessed [here](#). If anyone has any difficulties accessing the platform, please contact Mrs Harrison (LRC Manager) at library@driffieldschool.org.uk.

- If you have changed your contact details, please contact office@driffieldschool.org.uk or ring the school on 01377 253631 so we can update your details.

Year 11 Information

- Mr Loftus has sent out information regarding the Period 4 after school programme for Year 11 students. This can be found at this [link](#). Please check your own letter for your child's personalised timetable. If your child normally uses a bus to travel home, and would like to do so after these sessions, please indicate the route and evenings needed on this [form](#).
- Details will be shared with you shortly about the Year 11 Progress evenings, which will take place via video appointments on 25 November (x half) and 3 December (y half), between 4.30 pm and 7.00 pm. Full details of the booking system will be sent out with you and telephone appointments can be made for anyone who does not have access to video capabilities for these meetings.

Year 7 Information

- Flu vaccinations took place in school for Year 7 students on 22 October. A further [catch up session](#) will take place on 14 December.

Teams FAQs

Following our recent survey of parents, we have collated the FAQs below, to answer some common questions about the work that teachers are currently setting on Microsoft Teams.

Can we use Microsoft Teams on an Apple computer?

Yes: you can download the apps for Teams, Word and other Office apps in the Apple app store. However, your child will need to login using their Teams login details to use these apps.

Can my child use their Teams account and the other software (Word, PowerPoint etc) at another person's house if they do their homework there?

Yes. However, they might need to access Teams through the school website to do this if they are not using their own device to login.

We are having difficulty uploading work to Microsoft Teams. What should we do?

If the work won't upload, you can email this to your teacher. You can search your teacher's school email through the Outlook site where you access your school emails.

We can only access it on a mobile phone. Is this ok?

Accessing Teams through a mobile is fine, though it will be best to download the app from your phone's app store. You should still be able to access streamed lessons and the files that contain lesson resources, as well as homework assignments.

Is all homework going to be set on Teams?

Though the task details are all being set on Teams, not all tasks are based on Teams. This will continue, as there are some tasks (for example, an exam-style essay in English) that most students

will still need to do by hand. Some homework tasks (such as the online quizzes) may need to be completed on Teams, but others might be able to be done on Teams or on paper.

My child has handed in a hard copy of a homework. Do they still need to submit it on Teams?

No. Though Teams will still show the piece as not submitted, your child's teacher will keep a record of the hard copy. However, you can still click 'submit' on Teams if your child wants it to show as 'submitted' on their Teams profile.

Can I login to Teams as a parent?

Unfortunately, we are not able to create parent accounts to access Teams. However, we would encourage you to ask your child to show you their Teams groups (so that you can see what homework has been set and which tasks need completing).

Where can I access help with using Teams?

There are help guides available at the links below.

Using Teams on a laptop/computer: <https://bit.ly/DriffSchoolTeams>

Using Teams on a smartphone/tablet: <https://bit.ly/MSTeamsMobile>

Downloading files for a certain subject has not been working. What should we do?

If there is a problem with a specific file, please contact your child's teacher or the head of that subject through the school office email.

We don't have access to a printer. Is this ok?

If your child is self-isolating, there is no expectation that work/resources are printed. For example, if they are analysing a text in English then they could copy out key quotations instead of highlighting them. If you aren't able to print out resources for homework, your child can ask their teacher for a hard copy when in school.

Will my child receive individual feedback on all pieces of homework?

We continue to provide feedback in line with The Education Alliance Written Feedback Policy. This can be found on the school website.

All students will receive regular feedback on their work, taken from both classwork and homework. However, the feedback given might look different depending on both the subject and the piece of work. For example, the feedback on a homework quiz might be which answers are correct/incorrect. Some subjects might also give students a summary of the class' feedback before teaching a lesson that addresses the areas for improvement. If you have any questions about feedback in a specific subject, you can contact the head of that subject through the school office email.

My child has asked for support in Teams but the teacher has not replied. What should I do?

If this has happened, there might be a reason (technical or otherwise) that has prevented the member of staff seeing the question. Please feel free to email specific questions to the school office email to be forwarded to the teacher/head of department if you feel that questions have not been responded to.

Other Useful Information

To access our website:

driffieldschool.net

To purchase school items, including revision guides:

shop.driffieldschool.net

To follow us on Facebook:

[@DriffieldSchool](https://www.facebook.com/DriffieldSchool)

To follow us on Twitter:

[@driffieldsch](https://twitter.com/driffieldsch)

- If you need a copy of your ParentPay activation code, please contact finance@driffieldschool.org.uk
- The school can be contacted by telephone on 01377 253631 or emailed at office@driffieldschool.org.uk