



DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

Parent & Carer Bulletin

Monday 18 January 2021

Happy New Year from the team at Driffield School & Sixth Form. We are very thankful for your support with our move to remote learning over the past fortnight, especially when it comes to helping your children navigate Microsoft Teams. Information on how to access support for remote learning is below, as well as some information on supporting students with reading for pleasure by accessing free eBooks and audio books through the school's LRC as well as local libraries.

Form time has begun again today and will run from 8.55 am to 9.05 am on Mondays and Wednesdays. All students have now been added to their form group on teams. Form Tutors are really looking forward to seeing their students again and this will ensure additional pastoral support is provided for them.

Full School Information

- Updates from the CEO and Executive Principal have been shared on [31 December 2020](#), [5 January 2021](#) and [11 January 2021](#) updating you (as soon as we were in a position to do so) after the government announcements about the changing position on the re-opening of schools in January. More detailed [information](#) about the in-school arrangements was shared with our critical workers and parents/carers of 'vulnerable' children.
- We welcome your feedback about online learning at the school and our questionnaire can be accessed [here](#) and this is open until 21 January 2021.
- We continue to do everything we can to make sure students are well-taught and supported; if any student does need additional help, please contact their Head of Year or Head of House by emailing pastoral@driffieldschool.org.uk.
- We have updated students with [details](#) of how to access Microsoft Teams via games consoles, in case other devices are not available.
- We have continued to [update](#) our Year 11 and Year 13 students following the Prime Minister's announcement on 4 January 2021 that GCSE and A Level exams will not be taking place in the normal way this summer. We will write to you again as soon as we hear more details and, in the meantime, continue to support students with their online lessons, so that they can be as prepared as possible for the future.
- We have contacted our students who were due to [sit external exams](#) from Monday 11 January onwards and students scheduled to take [BTEC/OCR exams](#). We realise this is a very anxious time; if you do have any questions or concerns about exams, please contact the exams office at exams@driffieldschool.org.uk.
- Mr McDonald (Director of English) is running our school's heats for the national 'Poetry By Heart' competition, where students will be reciting poems so that we can select winners to represent

the school in the national competition. Entries can be done remotely. Students can email richard.mcdonald@driffieldschool.org.uk before the end of January for full details.

- In English lessons this week, students have been shown how to access the LRC's online catalogue of eBooks, to help them with reading for pleasure at home. If the titles that they are looking for aren't available, then another option is to access the East Riding Libraries' eBooks and audio books (for free) via the BorrowBox app. Full details are available at [this link](#).
- 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 Andrews (Head of Sixth Form) continues to [prepare](#) our students for their next steps after GCSEs and - to support with this - will be running a Sixth Form Information Evening. If you have any specific questions about the Sixth Form, please email them to darren.andrews@driffieldschool.org.uk and he will ensure he covers the answers in the event. Some period 4 subject taster sessions will also be offered shortly in the form of 'live' online lessons and remember: our Sixth Form Open Event remains live at <https://www.driffieldschool.net/> with videos, information, and the chance to listen to some of our amazing alumni students.

Year 9 Information

- The [Year 9 Progress evening](#) has taken place via video appointments on 13 January for X half students and will take place on 21 January for Y half students, between 4.30 pm and 7.00 pm. Telephone appointments can be made for anyone who does not have access to video capabilities; please contact the school if you would like a phone appointment.
- The [Year 9 Options event](#) is now live virtually and can be accessed at options.driffieldschool.net. This gives lots of useful information and videos to help our students make informed choices as they progress into their GCSEs. If you have any questions about the options process or about a specific subject, please email options@driffieldschool.org.uk.

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