

Dear parent/carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Year 9 students back to Ormiston Park Academy and express how lovely it has been to see so many of them adjust very quickly to the new „NEW,, and embrace their online learning, I appreciate that this is not an easy time for them, you and your loved ones, but I wanted to take this time to share with you personally how happy the whole Year 9 team is to have them back with us, albeit remotely.

Lessons began remotely on 5.1.21 and will continued to be delivered in this way until we receive further guidance from the government with regards to the reopening of schools. Although the year 9s are familiar with Teams having attended online lessons for few weeks previous to the Christmas break I want to commend them for adapting to these challenging circumstances in a mature and enthusiastic way. Especially with the technical issues some of them may have experienced along the way and your patience as parents/carers while we worked to resolve them for you.

If you do experience any further IT issues as listed below, please do contact the appropriate team.

Remote Learning IT Issues Support (Devices / Connectivity / Microsoft Teams etc)

OPARLSupport@ormistonpark.org.uk

Password reset:

fnicorici@ormistonpark.org.uk

The feedback I have received from Year 9 subject teachers about their participation and engagement in their online lessons has been nothing but positive and I as their Head of Year could not be prouder of them for their continued commitment to their studies in these challenging times.

The structure of their school day is slightly different now, with lessons being 40 minutes long instead of the normal one-hour session. This has been put in place with pupil wellbeing at the forefront of our minds, to enable them to have a break from their devices in-between lessons; stretch their legs and prepare for their next lesson. The expectation for conduct in and attendance to lessons remains the same as if they were in the Academy. Lessons start promptly at 9am and finish at 2:40pm, I am confident that in the past two week the Year 9s are trying their hardest to attend all of their sessions, I also understand in these circumstances that sometimes it is difficult to motivate your child for the day ahead and technology is not always on our side. Please do contact myself or any member of my team should your child experience any difficulty accessing their online lessons as we are here to support them and you.

We are a year group that pride ourselves on wellbeing and healthy communication, as of Monday 18th January Form Tutors will be delivering morning registration every Monday and Friday at 8:30am-8.45am, so that they can be available to discuss and assist with any concerns your child may be having. I will also be delivering live assemblies every Wednesday starting 20th January from 8:30am-8.50am, our assemblies have always been a time for us to come together as a year group and celebrate their achievements, I do not want them to miss out on this experience because of the current circumstances we find ourselves in, so please do encourage your child to attend every registration and assembly.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals we will send vouchers direct to your email addresses via a company called Schoolvouchers.com, if your email details have changed then could you please update the Academy as soon as possible, so that we can get your vouchers to you promptly. We are currently waiting on the national government scheme to commence and then we will work via them as we did in the first National lockdown.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, as I'm sure you can appreciate this is an extremely uncertain and confusing time for all of us, however, your child's education and wellbeing is extremely important to myself and my team so please do feel free to contact us with any queries you may have and we will respond to you as soon as possible.

Head of Year: fnicorici@ormistonpark.org.uk

Deputy Head of Year: emahon@ormistonpark.org.uk

Senior Leadership Link: sgakungu@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.1 Mr McCartney dmccartney@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.2 Mrs Clark sclark@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.3 Mr Cannon dcannon@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.4 Mr Gold pgold@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.5 Mr Tobin ctobin@ormistonpark.org.uk

9.6 Mr Bhatt vbhatt@ormistonpark.org.uk

Kindest regards,

Mr Nicorici Head of Year 9