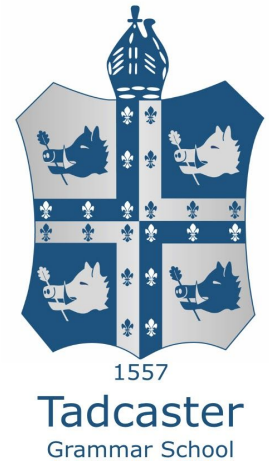


# Be Your Best Self



Wednesday 21st October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers (& Students),

I hope this finds you well and looking forward to the half-term period with your children.


We will be issuing our half-term 1 newsletter in the next day or so. This newsletter celebrates the awe inspiring work the school has been involved in since way back at the start of term in September. Although it is only a snapshot through a keyhole, I am so proud of how students, staff and parents have managed to keep our school vision and values alive and present during our current Covid-19 operational way of working.

This update is mostly concerned with continuity of education during our current Covid-19 operational way of working, although I do wish to make you aware of the following. We will be advertising for two parent governor posts at Tadcaster Grammar School shortly to start office at the end of November 2020. A letter will be emailed to all parents and placed on our website outlining the election process before half term.

Hopefully you will have a wonderful, safe and happy half-term holiday. However, should your child test positive for Covid-19, it is still vital that we are informed in order that we can notify students and staff who may have been in close contact with them. This is especially important in the first few days after school has broken up for the half-term break. Please use our notification procedure below (see table on page 2). A reminder of what action to take with Covid-19-related absence can be found on our website [HERE](#).



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<p><b>During school hours</b> Monday-Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm</p>	<p><b>Outside of school hours - including weekends and holidays</b></p>
<p>Ring School Reception on either:</p> <p>01937 833466</p> <p>Extension 308 or 301</p>	<p>Go to the school website at: <a href="https://tgs.starmat.uk/">https://tgs.starmat.uk/</a></p> <p>On the homepage, click on the sliding tile (see below) and complete the notification form.</p>  <p>A message will then be sent to the duty staff. Please expect a phone call shortly after submitting your form.</p> <p>The notification form is also available <a href="#">HERE</a></p>

### Remote Learning: Contingency Planning

As you will be aware from the national media, Government guidance is changing frequently to prevent the increase in cases and to limit the transmission of the Covid-19 virus. Despite the measures put in place, a number of schools have had positive Covid-19 cases (ourselves included) and have been forced to send staff, groups of students identified as close contacts, class bubbles or whole year groups home for self-isolation.

At this point, it might be useful to refer to this summary of how our Government sees the potential stages of state schools changing in response to the Covid-19 infection prevalence.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
<p>Close contact students self-isolating following notification of a positive Covid-19 test from TGS students.</p>	<p>We will adopt a two week rota system.</p> <p>Year groups will be in school for two weeks, followed by two weeks accessing Enhanced Remote Learning at home.</p>	<p>Only selected year groups in school (to be identified by the Department for Education).</p> <p>All other year groups access Enhanced Remote Learning at home.</p> <p>Only vulnerable children and children of critical</p>	<p>Only vulnerable children and children of critical workers in school full time</p> <p>All other students access Enhanced Remote Learning at home.</p>

		workers in school full time.	
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Promotion up the Tiers may not be linear i.e. rather than moving from Tier 1 through Tier 2, 3 and then arriving at Tier 4, we could be ordered to to move from Tier 1 straight to Tier 3 or Tier 4.

All of us at Tadcaster Grammar School are working hard to avoid any disruption to learning. However, given the local and national picture it is critical that we plan for every scenario. I therefore felt it appropriate to share with you our contingency planning. It is likely that the scenarios outlined in the table on page 4 will need to be implemented at short notice.

### Google Classroom/Meet Acceptable Use Agreement

As mentioned in the Headteacher’s Update on 12th October 2020 ([HERE](#)), to allow the school to deliver a range of interactive online learning experiences through the live function of the Google Learning Platform - Google Meet, we require that all parents and students have read and signed an Acceptable User Agreement (AUA). This has to be signed before a young person can engage in any form of online interactive learning. Our aim is for the whole school population to have AUAs in place before **Friday 23rd October 2020**. (Parents and) students in the sixth form have already completed this process.

In order for students to access **Google Meet**, it is compulsory for parents/carers **and** students to acknowledge they will comply with the **Acceptable User Agreement (AUA)** which you can find [HERE](#)

If this is not signed then the Google Meet provision will not be available.

**Deadline for completion of the Acceptable User Agreement: FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2020**

As always, because our experience has shown that things change rapidly, it may well be that some of these plans are revised due to a change in Government regulations, or by a reduced staffing capacity caused by illness and/or the need to care for dependants. Technical complications related to staff access to reliable broadband/wifi both in and out of school may also be a limiting factor. If this were to happen, we would review and update our plans and reissue them.

We continue to work with the families of those students eligible for the Pupil Premium to find a solution to ensuring students have access to a Chromebook or PC/laptop at home. For those households without available and accessible IT for their child(ren) and who have not opted into the school Chromebook programme (details on our website), it may be worth considering purchasing a Chromebook or PC/laptop as an option for the festive period approaching.

Thank you in advance for your support, and let’s hope that this is one situation where we plan for the worst but expect the best. I wish you all a restful half term break.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr A Parkinson**  
Headteacher



## Students' Remote Learning Entitlement

<b>Tier 1</b> <b>Individual Students Self Isolating</b>	<b>Tier 2</b> <b>Whole year groups working from home on a two week rota</b>	<b>Tiers 3 &amp; 4</b> <b>Partial/Full School Closure</b>
<p>Students self-isolating and not showing symptoms of Covid-19 should continue to follow their normal daily timetable whilst at home.</p>	<p>Students should continue to follow their normal daily timetable whilst at home.</p>	<p>Students should continue to follow their normal daily timetable whilst at home.</p>
<p>Subject teachers will upload the work they are delivering to their classes to their Google Classrooms within 24 hours (not including weekends) of the timetabled lesson.</p> <p>If students have any problems with the work, they should email their teaching staff or post a comment in the Google Classroom which, in turn, generates an email to the teacher.</p>	<p>Subject teachers will upload the work they are setting to their Google Classrooms. The work set will reflect the number of lessons in each subject over the two week period.</p> <p>For a proportion of the timetabled lessons over the two week period, good health permitting, teachers will provide Enhanced Remote Learning Support* (see below).</p> <p>Teachers will inform students of which timetabled lessons will contain this Enhanced Remote Learning Support.* Attendance, by linking into the Google Classroom for that subject, will be expected at these times.</p>	<p>Subject teachers will upload the work they are setting to their Google Classrooms.</p> <p>The work set will reflect the number of lessons in each subject over the two week period.</p> <p>Good health permitting, and where teaching staff are not caring for dependants, Enhanced Remote Learning Support* will be provided in the same way as Tier 2 provision.</p>
	<p>Provision will be made in school for critical workers and vulnerable families. These learners will be supported in school to access the remote learning package for their year group.</p>	

### **Enhanced Remote Learning Support\***

- There will not be a one size fits all model of “live” teaching.
- Teachers will use the normal teaching contact time to ensure that learning is as effective as possible.
- It will ensure students are able to be in touch with their teachers over the course of a two week period.

A variety of approaches will be used which may include:

- A teacher-led introduction to the tasks to be completed, the resources which will help and the time limit for completion.
- “Live” explanation using Google Meet or pre-recorded lesson commentary
- The teacher is available for students to ask questions during the timetabled lesson.
- Students asked to post work on the Google Classroom to check progress and understanding.
- The teacher provides additional resources to assess learning as the lesson progresses.
- Feedback from the teacher either to individual students or as whole class feedback.

End of letter